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AMERICAN JOURNAL

OF

HOMOEOPATHY.

EDITED BY S. R. KIRBY, M.D.

"THE AGITATION OF THOUGHT IS THE BEGINNING OF TRUTH."

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THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMOEOPATHY.

"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."

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S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

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American Journal of Homœopathy.

NEW-YORK, MAY, 1851.

HOMŒOPATHIC CONGRESS AT HAMM, ON THE 31ST JULY, 1850.

THE meeting was presided over by Dr. Von Bönninghausen.

Dr. Stenz, of Bonn, delivered a discourse on the *vexata quæstio* of the dose, and stated as the result of his experience, that it was impossible to fix a normal standard for the dose, that should be applicable for all cases of diseases. As a rule having some approximation to the character of a general maxim, he stated, that the lower doses were more suitable for acute, the higher for chronic diseases. But this was not the opinion of all homœopaths. Thus, Rau held an exactly opposite opinion; and even Stapf, whose attachment to the higher dilutions was well-known, had experienced the best results in the treatment of chronic skin diseases from the lower triturations of *Graphites* and *Carbo veg.* He held it, however, to be quite a fallacy to assume that acute diseases were always better treated by the lower, and chronic by the higher dilutions; and it was equally wrong to say, that children required either the higher or lower dilutions. For the cure of some

cases, it was absolutely necessary to use the more massive doses, for others the higher and highest potencies were required.

Dr. Bönninghausen related the case of a child who was affected with great congestion to the head, and lay in a perfectly comatose state, for which *Bell.* was decidedly indicated. He gave *Bell.* 200, with no result. He then gave 30, no change was effected; *Bell.* 6 failed equally to produce the slightest alteration. He then gave *Bell.* 2,500, and in a few hours amendment set in, and in forty-eight hours the child was perfectly cured. He laid it down as a general rule, that it was better, in repeating a medicine, to go from the lower to the higher, than from the higher to the lower dilutions. He now very rarely administered anything below the 200th potency, even in acute diseases.

Dr. Gauwerky, of Soost, mentioned two cases, one of which bore out Dr. Von Bönninghausen's remark, the other did not. The latter was a case of aphthæ of the mouth in a child. The whole mouth and throat were thickly set with white aphthous spots, and when the white deposit fell off, the parts beneath bled freely. There was much mucus in the throat, that threatened to suffocate the child. *Iod.* he conceived to be indicated. He gave it in the 200th dilution, it did good for a little, but its good effects soon ceased. He gave it in the 30th, then in the 3d dilution, with the same result; the case grew even worse than before. Still convinced that *Iod.* was the proper remedy, he gave the mother tincture of *Iod.*, four drops for a dose. The disease was thereby cured in such a rapid manner, that it seemed to have been blown away.

The other case was one of fungus haematoles in a man. The patient lost much blood every day from the tumor. *Phos.* 30 did nothing, but *Phos.* 200 effected a most rapid cure.

Dr. Bönninghausen mentioned a case of fungus haematoles of the cheek, which he cured with a single dose of *Staphysagria* 200.

Dr. Gauwerky detailed a case of ascites in a lady, which, after much allopathic treatment, was rapidly cured by *Lycopodium* 30.

Dr. Stenz said he had had several cases similar to that one of Dr. Gross, detailed in the *N. Archiv*, where weak labor-pains were instantly made energetic by the use of *Sec. corn. 200.*

Dr. Gauwerky related the case of a lady affected with pleuro-pneumonia, in which he had vainly tried *Acon.*, *Bry.*, and *Arn.* The breathing became shorter and shorter, the cough more and more troublesome. He gave in the morning a dose of *Rhus*; this was soon followed by a sound sleep of several hours' duration; but in the evening the patient got out of bed, walked out of the house, and threw herself into the well. He asked whether this extraordinary catastrophe might not have been the result of the pathogenetic action of *Rhus*.

Dr. Bönnighausen was of opinion that it ought to be attributed to the *Rhus*, as that medicine had an almost precisely similar symptom in its proving. He attributed this effect to the fact of the *Rhus* having been given in the morning; he often found bad results to ensue from giving medicines in the morning, and he now only gave them in the evening.

Dr. Bönnighausen next read a communication respecting a case of hydrophobia resulting from the bite of a mad dog, which had given rise to a conflict with the medical faculty and the municipal authorities.

Dr. Dudgeon detailed the histories of the two cases of hydrophobia that had been successfully treated in England by homœopathic remedies, which excited a great deal of interest among the assembled physicians.

Dr. Bönnighausen directed attention to the frequency of the occurrence of scrofula after vaccination, which he ascribed to the inoculation of that disease, along with the vaccine matter; and further remarked, that he had found *Thuja* quite specific in the smallpox, which it cured without leaving the slightest mark. He gave it in the 200th dilution, one dose alternately with *Merc. 200.*, every second day. He gave it in alternation with *Merc.*, because *Thuja* did not bear repetition well without an intercurrent remedy.

A variety of other interesting matter was brought forward and discussed, but as it was more of a local than a general interest, relating chiefly to the relation of Homœopathy to the state, it need not be detailed. Before the meeting separated, Dr. Bönnighausen expressed the pleasure himself and colleagues experienced at seeing some of their English brethren amongst them, and hoped that at the next assembly of the North-German homœopathists, they would have the pleasure of seeing a larger number of them.

Drs. Davenport and Dudgeon of London were present, and it was announced that next year the meeting would be held at the Hotel at Deutz, opposite Cologne, on the 31st July.

THE ALLOPATHIC SCHOOL.

If we were to yield to our feelings, we should never pen another article against our opponents. But our judgment dictates to us that it is our duty, with the means at hand, to continue to exhibit to the public the evil of a system of medicine which is destroying the health of our citizens, and filling thousands of graves prematurely. We cannot find it in our heart to wound the feelings, without a good and sufficient reason, of any one of our professional brethren who are opposed to us in doctrine and practice. But truth demands, the public good demands, that we should inflict the wound, however severe the pain.

As a starting point to the subject of this article, let the reader distinctly understand that there can be but two modes of administering medicine to the sick, viz: Allopathic and Homœopathic. The former admits of an infinite variety, without a single clearly defined principle; while the latter cannot be practiced except by chance, unless its principles are clearly perceived and strictly followed. The one is exact and approximates certainty; and the other is loose, indefinite and uncertain. These are now established facts, which at this period cause the most unheard of writhings throughout the entire Allopathic school.

We can scarcely believe what we hear and see—the phenomena to which we refer, is unparalleled in the history of the world. For twenty-four hundred years a mode of medical treatment of the sick has been pursued without any essential change, and for thirteen hundred years of that time, the doctrines and practice of one man controlled every acknowledged practitioner, no one of these daring to gainsay or express a doubt of the truth of the commonly received doctrines; and not only so, but the image of Allopathy, notwithstanding her ugliness, was seemingly indelibly stamped upon the minds of the people in every part of the civilized world; and her system advocated with a zeal and honesty worthy of all praise, by the most talented and learned men the world ever knew; yet, with all this fortress-like protection, which could only be disturbed by the power of Omnipotence itself, fifty years ago, the sufferings of a sick world became so extreme by the very means employed to relieve it, that the cries of the distressed reached the throne of God. He, in his usual policy in the management of human

affairs, selected and qualified one man, as the medium of conveying a safe and more certain mode of relieving human maladies than had hitherto been known. The system of healing revealed through Hahnemann, was so directly and completely opposed to that which prevailed, that its theory alone accomplished but little; but when one and another afflicted with what was thought, and so declared by old school physicians, to be incurable maladies, tried the new system of treatment, and found rapid and permanent relief, the people began to proclaim their happy experience of Homœopathy, and the number increased from year to year, every one bearing the same testimony. The influence thus combined became a sort of battering ram to the old walls

Allopathy, which had been building for ages, and which were so thick and strong, that they were thought quite impregnable. But truth, that mighty antagonist of error, has accomplished wonders in the last fifty years in exposing the false theories of Allopathy, as well as demonstrating the dangerous tendency of her practice.

So powerful has been the influence of Homœopathy on the profession, as well as on the people, that the allopathic school itself is in a state of amazement. It is deeply mortified to find the rapid inroads which Homœopathy is making, the effect of which is, that the practitioners of Allopathy have been compelled to modify their practice by almost renouncing the lancet, leeches and cups; by diminishing the quantity of medicine, and an acknowledgement that salivation by mercury is not necessary. True, there are those who still adhere to the "heroic" practice, but they are comparatively few, and, generally, esteemed the most ignorant of that school. Things have changed in another respect, since the promulgation of Homœopathy. The time was, that a physician was hardly acknowledged until he was at least forty years old, but now, the juniors, who are not wedded to old and doubtful measures, secure the confidence of the people by yielding gradually to the convictions of their own minds, induced by the prevalence of Homœopathy; and although their practice is yet uncertain and unsafe, still, it is not as pernicious as the old "heroic" practice by the lancet, emetics, cathartics, &c.

Another change has been going on for the last few years, which begins to be manifest,

and causes much anxiety among the professors of our colleges. That to which we refer, is the spirit of toleration which prevails among students of medicine. A very large proportion of the graduates of our medical institutions will not allow themselves to be unduly prejudiced against Homœopathy, but resolve to investigate, secretly or openly, the claims of the new system of medicine. In one college, of over 400 students, an unjust attack upon Homœopathy and homœopaths would not be endured; a single attempt was promptly put down by a decided expression of disapprobation on the part of the students.

In a word, the old Allopathic practice has already received a blow, from which it can never recover; and the advice of Dr. Forbes begins to produce effects everywhere, and the restorative powers of nature are applauded to the skies, and thereby Allopaths pretend to account for, and acknowledge at the same time the success of Homœopathic practice.

Allopathy is beyond doubt doomed to annihilation, and the time of her execution depends upon the strictness of Homœopathic practitioners in adherence to the law, *similia similibus curantur.*

HOMŒOPATHIA.

Hahnemann had a great dread of the immature meddling of doctors with his doctrine and practice. He signalised Constantine Hering and Bönnighausen as his two foremost medical disciples. Both these great men happily survive to teach us by their practice and in their writings.

Some of the best Homœopaths, in Hahnemann's own sense, are so fearful of the deterioration of Homœopathy, by the introduction of Allopathic views and the influence of the Vienna School, that they have gone so far as to say they should prefer that Homœopathy should not be practised at all to its being practised as it is, and is likely to be. This is, of course, an extreme opinion, but it marks the apprehension of the surviving personal friends of Hahnemann, who saw his daily practice, had the daily *vivâ voce* teaching of the Master, and who knew most of the mind of that wonderful man. It has been happily said that he was at once an unequalled generaliser in theory, and individualiser in practice; in other words, that dialectically he was equally great in analysis and synthesis; that he could separate and combine; reject what was incongruous or adventitious, and retain everything important. He himself said that he wished none to trouble themselves about his theories, but to make themselves

acquainted with the facts of his doctrine, to test them by experience, and refute them if they could.

It is a serious responsibility to reject the authority of such a man, and no less to undertake to uphold and sustain it.

His disciples may differ from him on whatever is theoretical, but will concur in receiving the facts of his doctrine. There is a beginning, an end, and a meaning in his life, in what he said, wrote, and did. Each of his true followers will aim at the moral of that history. There can be no doubt those who find it will be happier, in their practice of Homœopathy, than those who miss it. But with all the deference due to Hahnemann's great authority, liberty of progression, investigation, and action is the just claim of his followers. The only restriction is that this liberty does not degenerate into license, and that they do not fall into those errors which Hahnemann exposed, and to which his doctrine is so decidedly opposed.

The Hahnemann philosophy lays down a law of healing, and the disciples are bound by that law, and not by any theory of disease. It has been very often said that Mr. Travers laid the medical world under the greatest obligation by deducing, from his observations of the effects of *Mercury*, to ptyalism, in cases of iritis, that this was the suitable remedy for similar inflammations in the different parts of the body. The remark was sagacious, and the inference just, on the principle of a theory of disease. But we know that *Mercury* does not cure all such cases of inflammation, and frequently fails to cure iritis—and so the argument and the inference fail. We use the *Mercury*, when indicated, and we derive all the benefit of its specific action, without the injurious and sometimes ultimately fatal effects of that poison. We use it under the direction of that law of healing, not of a theory of disease; we use it from a knowledge of its relation, in vital dynamics, to the disease, and not from the pathological consideration or theory.

This brings us to one of the errors into which some very scientific and praiseworthy and intellectual Homœopathists seem inclined to fall, the substitution of theories derived from pathological conditions for the law of healing, based on the character of the relation between the disease and the remedy. With such persons this would naturally lead to an empirical routine practice; while with others of an inferior grade, it would lead to the common fashion of treating the names of diseases.

There is no more reason why the Homœopathic law should be brought into subjection to pathology, than to chemistry. It uses, employs, and governs; it is not subject. As "the king never dies," according to the theory of monarchy; so the Homœopathic law is never in abeyance, nor in subjection, according to the Hahnemannian philosophy.

One acute observer has stated, that certain medicines act best or chiefly on one side of the body, others on the other side. This is a matter for the experience of other and many observers. But supposing, for example, it be true that *Bromine* acts most on the right lung, and *Phosphorus* on the left, the homœopathist would not refuse to choose his medicine according to this indication, because the pathological condition would be the same in either case.

The truth of the matter is, we have no positive knowledge during life of the condition of any internal organ affected with disease, we have only a general knowledge; and even after death, the scalpel only shows the diseased parts in death, and we have no similar means of ascertaining their condition in life. We can neither see nor handle them. Again, in the perpetual process of absorption and reproduction, in the never-ceasing changes that are constantly going on, we have no test for the variations of the vital force. We do not even know what it is; nor do we know what life is; nor what death is. Yet it is with this vital principle, whose movement constitutes what we call life, and the cessation of whose movement constitutes what we call death, that the healing art is concerned. The watchmaker can heal the perturbed functions, the wrench, the dislocation, the clogging of the machinery of a watch; because he can pull it to pieces, and put it together again. The most expert pathologist cannot do this for any living thing. The innumerable wheels within wheels of the human body, the revolution of circles within circles, the never-ceasing movement of the atoms that make up the whole, are beyond his ken, beyond his scalpel and his microscope.

Observation, experience, the faculty of reasoning from analogies, and applying remedies by the mixed faculties of the medical mind, are the powers of the physician. Analogies and experiences are derivable from mechanical, chemical, physiological, pathological, and psychical views, compared with past observations, and digested in the alembic of the memory. The just balance of the perceptive and reflective faculties is therefore needful to make up the man, at once scientific and practical. There is a kind of intuition, besides, which very few possess, only magnetic men like Hahnemann. This is a gift, and serves as a second mind to the happy possessor of it. It is the faculty of observing, feeling, and recording on the one hand, and of at once having all the resources of all the knowledge possessed at immediate command, for immediate use. It is genius.

The study of vital dynamics and an appreciation of our real ignorance of the actual condition of the vital forces at any given time, would improve our modesty and check our undue reliance on our supposed knowledge of the absolute state of the *material*, under the action of those forces at any given

time. Hence symptoms, signs, would have an increased relative value in our estimation. The very word sign or symptom indicates that we guess at rather than know the actual thing signified. Positive knowledge requires no signs; but as man has not this, he must guess what the shadows signify, which are reflected on the face of the mirror he sees darkly.

If signs, then, be of value in the consideration of disease, the remedies which produce similar signs should be applied according to their analogy. This is the symptomatology held in so much contempt by some: but contempt is ignorance.

Let it not be supposed that any attempt is here made, or intended, to underrate the real importance of pathology and the other accessories of what has been called medical science—the art of healing. Each is valuable in its place; but subordinates can never be co-equal with the governing law.

Science of a high order, such as is possessed by some illustrious men of our body, becomes dangerous instead of helpful, if it should be so used as to undermine the authority of that law. In that case Homœopathy would of necessity retrograde, and for many a year be hindered of its development according to the IDEA of the Founder.

Touching that law of healing we may suppose the noble old man, in the simple modesty of his dignified self-appreciation, saying to any of his followers he might think disposed to break through it at times, and to dispense with it at other times, and to make it subject always to the mere matter of the body and to various theories associated therewith—

“Man disobeying,
Disloyal, breaks his fealty, and sins
Against the high supremacy of law.”

If any profess the law, let them hold to it, or renounce it. The object should be to uphold an unmixed Homœopathy, which is eclectic enough for all purposes. If any one can be cured altogether without medicine, properly so called, so much the better. Homœopathy does not grudge the cure, or the credit of it, whether it be by water, or magnetism, or by movements, or in whatever way. Even so, such a cure, if real, would be generally, in the direction at least, and sometimes positively, under the action of the Homœopathic law. But when our remedies are applied, let it be done in accordance with the law, and not in reference to theories of disease.

Finally—Homœopathy maintains that no *real* and *permanent* cure can be effected except by remedies and appliances that are Homœopathic or harmonic in their nature to the disease to be cured, and which must be selected most carefully according to the symptom or group of symptoms, that is, by the difficult, yet unerring rule—“*similia similibus curantur.*”

HOMŒOPATHY IN PARIS.

Mr. WILSON presents his compliments to the Editor of the Homœopathic Times, and should he think the enclosed letter will be read with interest by his readers, Dr. Dunham, whose intelligence and zeal in the Cause are well-known (and who is now on a tour, which he intends to spread over two years, to observe the progress and practice of Homœopathy on the continent of Europe,) has permitted its being made use of.

Paris, Jan. 29, 1851.

MR. WILSON, London.

MY DEAR SIR:—I have deferred writing to you until this time, desiring, before doing so, to assure myself of the state of Homœopathy in Paris, and even to make some comparative observations of the two methods of treatment, which M. Tessier's practice has enabled me to do. M. Tessier has practised Homœopathy in his service of 105 beds at the Hospital St. Marguerite, during the last three years. The results of this treatment in cases of pneumonia and cholera he has already published. I have followed him in his visits, since my arrival in Paris, nearly two months. The cases treated embrace the usual variety of acute and chronic diseases, with the exception of cutaneous, syphilitic, and mental diseases. I have more particularly observed the course of a number of cases of pneumonia, pleurisy, and typhoid fever, because the other hospitals gave me opportunity of contrasting the treatment of M. Tessier with that to which Allopaths of different schools have recourse. This is by far the most satisfactory way of studying the merits of Homœopathy. The Homœopathic treatment of pneumonia and pleurisy one has the means of comparing with the ordinary Allopathic treatment of those diseases by Chomel and with the bleedings “coup sur coup” of Bouillaud. As for typhoid fever, Chomel, in his treatment of it, is entirely expectant, while Bouillaud, true to his theory, attempts to cut it short by one or several venesectioins. It is satisfactory to be able to compare the Homœopathic treatment with one purely expectant, because, unless one admit a beneficial action on the part of the remedies in the former case, it is impossible to account for the constant amelioration of the symptoms, and more speedy and favorable termination of the disease. As for the other cases, pneumonia and pleurisy, a comparison is not less gratifying. The cases which I have observed in M. Tessier's service, commencing by symptoms equally grave with those observed under the other physicians, have uniformly advanced far more rapidly and more certainly than the latter, to a shorter convalescence and a more perfect re-establishment of health. That the treatment is more agreeable than that which the other physicians employ will not be questioned. The three conditions of judicious treatment are, therefore, much more perfectly fulfilled by M. Tessier than by his colleagues. As to doses, M. Tessier confines himself chiefly to the

medium dilutions, not generally going below the 3d, or exceeding the 12th. He says, that he has not found the 1st or the tincture more efficacious in very acute inflammations than the 3d, or even the 6th. Indeed, his experience would lead him to prefer the latter dilutions in such cases to the former. In some cases he uses the 24th and 30th ; higher than this I have not known him to go. The remedies are administered dissolved in water, at intervals greater or less, according to the intensity of the malady.

Of course, in his practice of Homœopathy at St. Marguerite, M. Tessier has met with much opposition. The Allopaths endeavored to induce the Bureau of Hospitals to prohibit the practice of Homœopathy in the hospitals of Paris. The Bureau would not, however, consent. Since the publication of the "Researches," etc., the journals have contained much abuse and many criticisms, which have served a good purpose, by fixing the public attention on Homœopathy and its successful practice by Tessier. The most important criticism by M. Valleix, one of the physicians at St. Marguerite, has been admirably answered by M. Tessier's late *interne*. The grounds on which M. Valleix objects to the deductions in favor of Homœopathy, which M. Tessier draws from results of his practice, are chiefly two : 1st, "Pneumonia is a disease of which the gravity has been greatly exaggerated—one which tends naturally to recovery." 2d, The choice of cases by M. Tessier for experimentation was unfair, and therefore the results are not reliable.

The reply by M. Tessier's late *interne* answers the former by quoting from a "Practice of Medicine," by M. Valleix, published 1850, a paragraph which states the extreme gravity of pneumonia, and the necessity of active treatment, to prevent a fatal termination ; and the second, by showing that, on five days out of every six, the choice of patients for St. Marguerite was made by men with whom M. Tessier had no connection, and who were opposed to him, and had no reason to wish his experiment success.

Meanwhile the attention of medical men is attracted to the subject, and now experiments are about being instituted by one of the first surgeons of the city, with reference to the treatment of erysipelas, according to the system of Hahnemann. At the dispensaries and pharmacies that I have visited, I have seen nothing worthy of note. Papers of interest were read at the last meeting of the Gallican Homœopathic Society, which will appear in their Journal.

You will appreciate the reasons for my delay in writing, and for the generality of my statements. My observations have not extended over a sufficient time to give authority to exact numerical statistics. One can therefore speak only approximatively. I shall remain in Paris until April 1st, and should I

learn anything that may interest you, shall take pleasure in communicating it.

Meanwhile, I pray you, commend me to the brethren, and believe me,

Yours truly,

CARROLL DUNHAM.

NAMES OF DISEASES.

The names of diseases and the titles of books have the same basis. The contents of books cannot be known by their titles, nor the nature of diseases by their names. The treatment of diseases by their names, is as reasonable as the reading of books by their titles. He who advocates the one is laughed at for a fool, and yet the other is practised daily by learned doctors.

All kinds of quackery is perpetuated by a misuse of the names given to diseases. If this matter was understood as it should be by the people, the business of advertising medicines for various maladies would soon cease. "What is the disease?" said a mother to us, whose child we had been requested to see. "Typhus fever, madam." "Thank you, doctor, here is your fee. I have a brother who is a physician, and he wants to know from you what the disease is, so he may know how to treat it, for he has medicine to cure all kinds of fever."

A lady described to us a pain in the side of her head, and asked, "What is it, doctor?" In reply, we used her own words with which she had stated her sufferings, and said, "that is it, that is it, madam." She seemed disappointed.

"Perhaps you want the name, madam?" "Yes, doctor, yes, that is what I want, for if I know the name of my complaint, I may find an advertised medicine that will cure it." "The name is *megrism*." "Thank you, doctor, have the kindness to write the word, I may forget it." The reader will smile at the stupidity of these persons, but thousands who, in other things are intelligent, submit to a similar mode of treatment from those who claim to be "regular" physicians. We do not mean to say that practitioners admit, in so many words, that they prescribe for diseases by their names ; yet, allopathists, regular and irregular, being governed by the conventional doctrines of their school, cannot escape, in their practice, the almost universal influence which the names of diseases have on the pro-

fession, and on the community; for, in this respect, common sense seems to have yielded herself up a sacrifice to what is erroneously termed medical learning.

The subject under notice shows an essential difference between allopathy and homœopathy, which should be thoroughly studied by every practitioner of the latter. If we examine the import and use of the word *diagnosis*, in the allopathic school, some light may be shed upon the subject of this article. That term is defined, "the science which delivers the signs by which a disease may be distinguished from another disease." This rule directs a comparison of diseases as they exist in different persons, and also a designation of those signs or symptoms which distinguish one malady from another. This is not objectionable if it be limited to the theory of disease, and in no degree mixed with the theory of cure. A certain or safe healing art can never be discovered if a theory of disease and a theory of cure are mingled, or by creating the latter out of the former; they are naturally distinct and independent subjects, and hence it is, that a name of a disease, however appropriate, is of no value in the treatment of the case. This is a very important point to the real physician, and should be most thoroughly studied by every homœopathist. A proper understanding of the distinction to which we refer, would relieve many an honest mind from serious embarrassments in the study of Homœopathy. It would relieve the school from that pernicious tendency, in some, of holding on to pathology and diagnosis as taught in the allopathic school. Homœopathists do not oppose the study of these branches of science, but they are opposed to a wrong application of the knowledge which they afford. Homœopathists can never use expressions like this one, which may be found in almost every acknowledged practical work on Allopathy: viz., "the treatment should be conducted on general principles."

Homœopathy is limited to a knowledge of the effects of drugs on the human system, and the application of drugs to the cure of diseases, in other words, to the *Materia Medica* and *Therapeutics*; therefore, a rule which is not directly practical and in harmony with her essential principles, is not only useless, but may be injurious. Now, if the word *diagnosis* be used at all in Homœopathy, it can only mean

those signs or symptoms of a disease in an individual, whose case is under notice, which are striking, singular, extraordinary and peculiar; which mainly aid the practitioner in selecting that drug for a remedy, the characteristic symptoms of which correspond to those of the case to be treated. There are two things, therefore, which require exactness in Homœopathy; the characteristic symptoms of the disease, viewed as an independent existence in the individual case; and the characteristic symptoms of the drug, which should approximate identity as near as possible, for, in such cases, all the symptoms of the disease will simulate those of the drug, and come fully within the therapeutic law. Consequently, in the allopathic school, the word *diagnosis* leads to a comparison of one case of disease with others, which is unobjectionable for theoretical purposes; while, in the homœopathic school, it should be used to embrace the actually diseased condition of individuals, without a direct comparison with one another, but by a comparison of each case, with drugs which are known to produce similar diseased conditions, for the purpose of securing the remedy. In the one school it is theoretical, and in the other it is practical.

DR. TRINK'S LETTER.

At a meeting of the Hahnemann Society, of London, the following letter from Dr. Trinks was read in acknowledgment of his election as an honorary member:—

"Esteemed Sir:—You announce to me that the Hahnemann Medical Society has done me the honor to elect me honorary member at its meeting on the 2d July, and I beg you will express to that Society of homœopathic physicians, which I so highly esteem, my most profoundly felt thanks for the very flattering distinction. Since 1820, I have been a homœopathic physician, and have had the extreme good fortune to enjoy personal intercourse with the great Reformer at Leipzig and Cöthen, and I remained in correspondence with him up to the period of his decease. I have participated in all the phases of his reform of the medical art along with him, and have been compelled to undergo the martyrdom of his first disciples in its full extent and meaning, a fate that none of the homœopathic practitioners of the present day will have to encounter. Those were, in truth, no pleasant times, and it required great patience, great courage, in order to bear up against all the stupidities of unreasonable indi-

viduals, as well as the systematic oppressions and persecutions of our medical authorities. Every inch of the ground of Homœopathy had to be striven and combatted for; whenever a death occurred among our patients we feared a judicial investigation; Damocles' sword was suspended over the head of every homœopathic practitioner in Saxony. I was the first homœopathic physician in Dresden, and Kreysig, the omnipotent court physician, was the personal enemy of Hahnemann; and he succeeded, by intrigue, in driving Hahnemann out of Saxony. Under such auspices had a firm footing to be gained for Homœopathy—and it has been gained.

"These sad and gloomy times are past, Heaven be praised! and the great fact can now develop itself freely and unrestrainedly, and bring its influence to bear on our science and art. And this it will do, because it is a grand truth. We are still in the first period of the development of this new and natural system of medicine, which is the crown of all the investigation of nature, and which will rapidly unfold an undreamt of profusion of bloom, in spite of all the aberrations that are inseparably connected with the progress and development of every new science and art—for all these errors and illusions vanish before the force of facts and before the light of criticism. All seed does not fall in good ground, and therefore we cannot hope to reap only good and pure grain, for every seed requires to be thoroughly cleansed from the chaff.

"When I review my life, I forget the sorrows of the past in the joys of the present; I see how the homœopathic healing art is spreading over the whole world, how rapidly its medical and lay supporters increase, and it is a great, a happy thing to be conscious of having worked along with them to the best of my ability at this great edifice, which will prove a source of incalculable blessing to suffering humanity.

"Accept, respected Sir, the assurance that I shall follow with great attention the labors of the homœopathic physicians of England, who have already accomplished so much gratifying work for art and science.

"With esteem, I remain your most obedient,

C. F. TRINKS,

"Royal Saxon Medical Counsellor.

"Dresden, 8th August, 1850.

"To the Secretary of the Hahnemann Medical Society."—*Brit. Journ. of Hom.*

from no treatment, or what is the same thing, from the silly reliance on infinitesimal doses of *belladonna* and *aconite*, which, from ample observation, we pronounce utterly inert. We suppress, out of forbearance towards those who do not deserve it, and out of delicacy to the sensibilities of the bereaved, what we know upon this subject."

Those who know the character of Dr. Reese, the Editor of the Gazette, for truth and veracity, possibly may "pin their faith upon his sleeve;" but the thousands who have seen their "little ones" recover of violent *scarlet fever* by the use of infinitesimal doses of *belladonna*, will not easily believe the statement of the Gazette.

Seriously, the twattle of this man Reese reminds one of a state of *dementia*; we do not mean to say that this is his state, for we have a much better opinion of the quality of his head than we have of his heart.

It is enough to excite a hearty laugh, to see an allopathist put on airs, and hear him talk of "mal-treatment" of any disease, but especially so of scarlet fever; for whatever treatment may be adopted, except genuine Homœopathic, there is authority for it in the acknowledged Allopathic works. Allopathists cannot convict of mal-treatment except in surgery. We assert most positively, that this is utterly out of their power. Homœopathists have an advantage in this respect, which the people after awhile will understand, and be able to avoid the impositions often of late practised upon them by allopathists who pretend to prescribe Homœopathically.

We should like to see Dr. Reese try his hand at detecting mal-treatment of scarlet fever by Allopathy. Come Doctor, you have made a bold statement, give your readers an illustration of it.

The Editor of the Gazette pretends, from feelings of "forbearance" and "delicacy," to suppress what he knows, we presume he means, of the Homœopathic treatment of scarlet fever. We say, out with it, Doctor, don't, for the sake of humanity, don't keep it back. This kind of insinuation is cowardly,—out with it, and if you must, give names, for if it is half as bad as your words imply, no court in christendom would convict you of libel. By-the-by, Doctor, you promised some months ago, in connection with a similar kind of insinuation as above, some astounding developments

A REMARKABLE DISCOVERY.

The Medical Gazette speaks of the prevalence of the *scarlet fever* in this city, and says: "Many of the fatal cases, as in former years, result from mal-treatment, and more

of the conduct of Homeopathists during the prevalence of the *cholera* in 1849. Let us have these, too; the public good may require them at your hands.

HAHNEMANN ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.

SCIENTIFIC CONVERSATIONS.

A regular meeting of the Academy was held Wednesday, April 2d, 1851. Doctor Curtis, Vice President, in the chair. Conversations on Scientific subjects being in order, Doctor Sherrill read some notes of a case of clerical Bronchitis which he had recently treated. The prominent symptoms were aphonia, great prostration of strength, tendency to diabetes and soreness of the scalp, accompanied by supra-orbital headache. In the commencement of the treatment, Nux and Sulphur were used without much benefit, after which, recourse was had to Conium and Phosphorus, under the use of which the patient grew rapidly better, and was very soon free from the affection.

Doctor Curtis remarked that the last remedies were well adapted to the case, particularly the Phosphorus, which was an invaluable remedy in all these throat affections. He thought, however, that the Carbo Vegetabilis was very much indicated by the symptoms and would have been chosen by him in preference to the others. Doctor C. then referred to a case of Aphonia, of five years' duration, which he had cured by a single remedy, the Causticum given in drop doses of the tincture. During the whole period of the disease, the patient had been able to utter only a few harsh indistinct sounds and even these were accomplished with difficulty. He regarded the case as one of Paralytic Aphonia. Doctor McVickar concurred in the opinion, and thought that the difficulty had depended on paralysis of the vocal chords.

Doctor Donovan observed that he had met during the past winter with two cases of Aphonia, or rather partial Aphonia, somewhat similar. They seemed to be of a catarrhal or rather rheumatic character, and the muscles of the larynx appeared to be in a condition analogous to some forms of Rheumatic Paralysis of other parts, for which Rhus is found to be so extremely beneficial. In both cases the Rhus was given and was followed by immediate relief. The choice of the remedy was in both

cases, Doctor D. stated, determined by one of the subjective symptoms. By making an effort the patient was able to utter a few sounds, and on continuing the effort, the Aphonia seemed to yield in some measure, so as to allow of the patient conversing in a low tone. Improvement from using an organ being characteristic of Rhus, had induced him to prescribe it, and it proved how important it is for us to note the subjective symptoms of a case.

Doctor Kirby referred to some cases of Glossitis attended by mercurial fetor of the breath, which he had recently treated. The cases were in the beginning merely of a catarrhal character, with sore throat, for which Belladonna had been prescribed. Glossitis set in afterwards, but was promptly subdued by the administration of Mercurius 6. His son also had cured some cases of the same kind, with Mercurius of the 30th dilution. The cures were not so rapid, however, as where the lower dilution had been given.

Doctor McVickar stated that the remarks of Doctor Kirby recalled to his mind a case of Glossitis which had occurred in the New-York Hospital some years since. In this case a most intense aggravation of the affection had been induced by the administration of an Allopathic dose of Calomel, which had been given for the purpose, as he supposed, of moving the bowels. So violent were the symptoms which followed, that it became necessary to make incisions in the tongue to relieve the swollen condition of this organ. The same peculiar fetor of breath existed also in this case as in those detailed by Doctor Kirby. The case had been reported, Doctor McVickar stated, and was to be found, he thought, in the New-York Medical and Surgical Journal.

Doctor Ball referred to an interesting case of what he regarded as suffocative Bronchitis, occurring in an infant. It was characterized by extreme difficulty of respiration and decisive secretion of mucus in the bronchial tubes, the mucous rale being remarkably distinct. The respiration was of a harsh, painful character, resembling somewhat the sound produced by the working of a saw, and during the attack the child was constantly covered with a clammy perspiration. The affection occurred in paroxysms, which were so severe that the infant seemed every moment threatened with suffocation. Musk and Hydrocyanic acid had been employed in the case as palliatives, under a belief that the case was one of Thymic

Asthma ; but no benefit whatever had resulted from their employment. Doctor Ball then observed that finding the symptoms corresponded closely with those laid down in the pathogenesis of Arsenic and Tartar Emetic, both of which seemed indicated, he was induced to prescribe them in alternation, and so successful were the remedies that the child almost immediately began to improve, and was soon perfectly recovered. The case was interesting, he said, from the fact that the child had been suffering for five or six months from these attacks, and had derived no benefit from the ordinary treatment. Doctor B. stated that he had used in this case Tartar Emetic of the first trituration, and Arsenic in the ordinary dilution of 1-160. Half a grain of the first and a drop of the latter having been put in tumblers of water, and a teaspoonful given every half hour alternately.

Doctor Donovan referred to some remarks he had made at the last meeting of the Academy, respecting the use of the Thuja Occidentalis in a case of Tinea. He wished merely to call the attention of the Academy to some symptoms remarkably characteristic of Thuja, which had appeared during the treatment. He had given this remedy on account of the pustular character of the eruption, and to correct a Sycotic taint which, from some of the symptoms, he thought, was lurking in the system. Soon after the patient commenced taking the remedy, an immense number of small moles, varying from a pin's head to a pea, in size, appeared on the neck, and were accompanied by vesicles surrounded by a red areola, resembling, precisely, those described in the provings of Thuja. These vesicles were not limited to the neck, but appeared on the hands and feet of the patient, and, after a short time, assumed a pustular character, and finally dried into thick crusts, the whole eruption so closely resembling smallpox in its character, that the resemblance was even remarked by the family. Dr. Donovan stated also, that some two years since, he had removed a large number of warts from the face and hands of a young lady by means of the Thuja. There were, probably, some 30 or 40 altogether, and they had entirely disappeared. His mode of administering the remedy, was to put some two or three drops of the tincture in a tumbler of water and give a tablespoonful morning and evening. The remedy was at the same time

applied locally. In this case, he had noticed also that a number of new warts suddenly came out during the administration of the remedy, and disappeared again as soon as it was discontinued. Dr. Donovan then remarked, that in the case of Tinea he had referred to, there were several congenital moles on the neck of the patient, which inflamed under the action of the Thuja, ulcerated, and finally disappeared. He referred to those particulars to show that the Thuja could produce those excrescences, as well as cure them, in persons having this peculiar pre-disposition. Staph, in his proving of Thuja, had given us instances of a similar character, but in the new Jahr, this pathogenetic effect of Thuja had been entirely overlooked.

The conversations were then closed, and the Academy adjourned.

T. W. DONOVAN, M. D.,
Clinical Secretary.

FRAUDS OF HOMOEOPATHY.

The Medical Gazette has an article with the above remarkable head, which charges highly dishonest conduct upon Homœopathists; but as usual there is an absence of the evidence. It is stated that a box was found containing small vials filled with pellets, and the corks labeled with the names of medicine ; but some of the vials contain calomel, morphine, quinine, tart. emetic and other active drugs of the quality in general use, but these were not labeled on the outside of the corks as were the others with pellets ; but "on taking out the cork of these, the names of the several articles are found marked on the under side of the cork in legible characters." Thus runs the statement of the Gazette. All this, however, we do not regard as of much consequence, even if the box belongs to a Homœopathist, of which there needs proof. Our own opinion is, it belongs to an Allopathist who attempts to sail under Homœopathic colors. For although, as is well known, and which nobody denies, there are those who claim alliance with Homœopathists, who use crude drugs almost exclusively, and do not conceal the fact, but, on the contrary, try to defend their practice ; yet these do not label their vials as above stated. But of late, some Allopathists have procured boxes, vials and pellets, from the Homœopathic Pharmacy, and when

a patient expresses a desire for Homœopathic treatment, the box is exhibited, and the physician declares his ability and willingness to gratify the wish of the patient in that respect. We have seen two boxes made expressly for Allopathists, but whether these were designed for the purpose of deception we do not know.

If the labels were as related by the Gazette, which in view of the authority we doubt, then we say again, that box belongs to an Allopathist. Keep your eye on that box, Mr. Gazette, and when it is claimed, tell your readers to whom it belongs.

Such means, to "put down Homœopathy," do not amount to much, for it is our private opinion, that Homœopathists will compare favorably with Allopathists for truth and veracity, and many of our best citizens, "from ample observation," think the preponderance is in favor of the former.

ACUTE INFLAMMATION OF THE STOMACH,

AND BRONCHIAL INFLAMMATION OF THE LUNGS,
SUPERVENING UPON INFANTILE REMITTENT
FEVER.

By EDWARD C. CHEPMELL, M.D., Edin.

William G——, aged seventeen months, of nervous-lymphatic temperament, very delicate from his birth, and since the period of dentition first commenced, rarely free from attacks of gastric-remittent fever (to which a sister was subject before), has within the last month been affected with acute bronchitis accompanied with serious gastric derangement. Latterly acute gastritis has set in. The symptoms of this complicated attack having become so alarming, and his medical attendant giving no hopes of recovery, his mother determined upon trying Homœopathy. The ordinary antiphlogistic treatment, in the first instance, and, latterly, opiates and tonics have been had recourse to.

His present state is as follows:

Face pale and wan; tongue pinkish; no appetite; intense thirst. He *vomits everything he takes*, fluids as well as solids, (the latter have been prescribed by way of supporting his strength!) the moment the aliment reaches the stomach. The stomach and abdomen are burning to the touch, especially the former, which is very sensitive to pressure. Bowels relaxed; stools slimy and greenish.

Is continually crying and coughing; passes sleepless nights. The cough is constant, hard and distressing; at times convulsive, and generally followed by retching, with inability to expectorate. Skin hot and dry; pulse from

140 to 150, irregular, but of tolerable strength. Mucous and sibilant râles are heard all over the chest; percussion normal; heart's action very strong.

From a comparatively plump child, has become thin and emaciated, more especially within the last four days; the strength is waning fast. He is cutting his canine teeth.

Prescription.—*Ipecacuanha*, 1 drop, 3d dilution, and *Aconitum*, 1 drop, 3d dilution. A sixth part alternately every four hours.

Diet, very weak gum-water. Only half a teaspoonful to be given at a time.

Clin. Obs.—*Ipecac.* was prescribed, chiefly on account of the severe *vomiting*, which seemed to be a characteristic feature in this case, also with a view to its action upon the bronchial tissues, so as to favor expectoration, and upon the gastro-intestinal mucous membranes. The peculiar *pathogenetic* effect of this remedy, is to increase the excitability of that portion of the nervous system more immediately connected with the organs of respiration and digestion, so as to cause strong *anti-peristaltic* motion of the upper, with increased peristaltic action of the lower, portions of the alimentary canal.

The vomiting of *Arsenicum* differs from that of *Ipecac.*, in that it seems to afford no relief. It is preceded and followed by prolonged retching, which is much more distressing, and is moreover accompanied by great prostration of the vital powers—in other words, more asthenic in character: hence this medicine will be often exhibited with wonderful advantage in the severest cases of sea-sickness, where there is fruitless retching upon an empty stomach, with excessive physical and moral prostration, also in the asthenic forms of cholera, vomitoria, etc. The same observation is applicable to the action of this remedy (*Arsenicum*) upon the intestinal canal; seeing that the alvine dejections which it induces are frequent, and generally scanty and insufficient, consisting of slimy and bloody mucus, sometimes of pure blood, or else serous and watery, attended with distressing and severe tenesmus, fruitless straining, sense of *burning heat in the abdomen and bowels, and with great prostration*. The irregular *peristaltic* and *anti-peristaltic* motions which it causes amount at times to convulsion.

Aconitum,—the indications for the exhibition of this remedy are so obvious as to need no comment.

April 15th. Is very much better, and has had a tolerably good night. The night before he had slept a little. The vomiting and retching have ceased; tongue slightly coated and less red; bowels not so relaxed. Skin moist; stomach and abdomen no longer burning; cough looser. Pulse of tolerable strength, and slightly above the normal standard as regards frequency. The improvement has been very rapid.

Prescription.—No medicine.

Diet, gum-water, and weak milk and water.

Clin. Obs.—As the little patient was so much better, it was deemed advisable to allow the system to repose before the exhibition of any more remedies.

April 17th. Has passed a good night, and continues to improve in every respect; appetite and strength returning. He is rather cross and peevish, and is frequently rubbing his gums, which are slightly inflamed. Has passed several green slimy stools. Pulse as before.

Prescription.—*Chamomilla*, 3 globules, 12th dilution, at once.

Diet, light arrowroot. To be given in small quantities at first, and gradually increased.

April 21st. Is very much better in every respect, and has been brought to the Dispensary to-day for the first time. The cough has almost ceased, and the mucous and sibilant râles are no longer heard; bowels regular; appetite and strength increasing. He is daily gaining flesh.

Since taking the *Cham.* has cut a canine tooth.

Prescription.—*Sulphur*, 3 globules, 12th dilution, to be taken dry six nights hence.

When the little boy had taken the *Sulph.* he was so well that his mother deemed it unnecessary for him to undergo further treatment. About fourteen months after, he came to the Dispensary with his mother and sister (the latter being a patient at the time), and was then a fine lively child in the enjoyment of perfect health.

AN EXPLANATION.

In the 9th No. of Vol. 5 of this Journal, we, in good faith, claimed to be "the only Journal of Homœopathy in the country." We did this, we say again, in good faith, as an explanation will show. About eighteen months ago, the "North Western Journal of Homœopathia," published at Chicago, Ill., ceased to come to this office, and we knew of no reason why we should be removed from the exchange list of that print. We continued to mail our Journal regularly to the Western Journal for about eight months thereafter, at which period we came to the conclusion, from not having received it nor heard of it, that its publication had been suspended, and in truth of our own knowledge, we do not know that it has an existence even now, but a friend of ours in New Jersey writes that he has lately received a copy, and that the Editor complains bitterly of the claim we set up as above in January last, which is the occasion of this explanation. We are aware that the Editor of the Western Journal, from causes unknown to us, was

never very friendly to the American Journal of Homœopathy. We suspected, however, that it arose from our opposition to eclecticism and a mixed practice, which we at one time thought was too prevalent in some parts of the West, and spoke out our mind freely on that subject. We remember to have received a letter from the neighborhood of Chicago, suggesting that unless we changed our course in regard to a mixed practice, the American Journal would be superseded by the Western Journal. We were surprised, because we had always regarded that Journal as a zealous collaborator in the propagation of genuine Homœopathy, and we don't know anything to the contrary now, for we have not seen it for eighteen months, and if its publication has been regular, we do not believe we have been omitted unintentionally. So much for the Western Journal, except that we would be obliged to the Editor, if he will send us the last 18 Nos. of that Journal, and we will remit the full subscription price for them as soon as received.

An explanation is also due to the "Homœopathist," published at Buffalo, N. Y. At the time we claimed to be the only Journal of Homœopathy in the country, we had not seen a number of the "Homœopathist" for four months; but in January last, we received a number three months behind its time of publication, since which, however, it has come to this office regularly, and while writing this article we received the March number filled with "Mysterious Rappings."

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER

TO THE LIVERPOOL MEDICO-ETHICAL SOCIETY.

BY GEORGE HILBERS, M. D.

"But it may be argued, that before any one is justified in departing from established custom on the score of conviction, he ought at least to show that his belief is not an idle vagary,—that it is the result of patient investigation and careful study. This will compel me, rather reluctantly, to enter into certain personal details; but in doing this, I am only tracing out a path similar to that which the great majority of Homœopathic converts have trodden, in their passage from absolute scepticism to implicit belief."

"In the year 1843, when actively engaged in practice, my attention was accidentally drawn to the subject of Homœopathy. Though as sceptical of its truth as any one who reads this, I resolved to try a comprehensive series

of experiments, rather with a view of proving its worthlessness to others than with any idea of satisfying my own mind, which, in truth, was satisfied already. In accordance with the maxim, that whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well, I resolved that, if the experiments were undertaken at all, they should want for no care which it was in my power to bestow, to render them conclusive. I determined that every patient who came to me (provided that a short delay was not likely to prove injurious) should take the Homœopathic medicines disguised in the best way I was able, and that they should be persevered with as long as any improvement was visible. Then if, at the end of twenty-four hours in acute cases, or of a week in chronic, no beneficial change was apparent, other remedies should be resorted to. My position at the time afforded me an excellent field for carrying out my scheme. I considered that if there really was any efficacy in the medicines, (after making every allowance for my ignorance of their use,) sooner or later I must see some convincing proofs of it. After pursuing this plan for a time, to my extreme astonishment, I perceived that the medicines actually did possess most wonderful curative powers; but I had scarcely ventured to try the treatment in very acute diseases, as croup, pleurisy, pneumonia, etc. Indeed, I was still very incredulous as to the medicines possessing sufficiently active properties to warrant me in trusting to them in such severe diseases. I resolved, therefore, to go to Vienna, where I was informed a hospital existed, in which I might see acute diseases of all kinds constantly under treatment. With this object in view, as also with a design of getting a thorough knowledge of the system, I diligently attended the Vienna hospital for many months. During my sojourn there, I saw several hundred cases of most acute disease treated with a success which I had never before witnessed either in hospital or private practice, and I returned to England with my mind fully made up as to the advantages to be gained by using the Homœopathic medicines.

"But again, it may be argued that the force of evidence is so overwhelmingly strong against the truth of Homœopathy, that myself and other converts must be laboring under some extraordinary aberration of intellect, which of itself disqualifies us from holding intercourse with the orthodox, though uninquiring-minded exclusionists. Is this really the case?

"I need not stop to point out the absurdity of seeking for evidence from those whose opinion of Homœopathy has been formed without their knowing anything about it. However true the system may be, but little short of a miracle could convince such persons. They pertinaciously refuse to try the medicines themselves, and as pertinaciously refuse to believe a word spoken in their favor by those who have tried them. If we want to arrive at the truth, we must seek for information

from those who, having themselves tried the medicines, are really able to afford it. There is certainly no lack of such persons. It is estimated that at the present time there are nearly 2,000 regularly educated Homœopathic practitioners scattered over the various parts of the world, not a few of whom, to use the language of an opponent 'are men of high respectability and learning,' twenty-seven being professors in universities. Some have practiced Homœopathy twenty, thirty, or even fifty years. The Physician-General of the Austrian army, Marenzellar, is a Homœopath of more than twenty-five years' standing. Is not this very strong testimony in favor of Homœopathy? Can it be conceived that not one of these men is able to discern whether their treatment does or does not influence disease? Many of them, when practitioners of the old school, were acute-minded enough. And yet, if Homœopathy is not true, in no single instance is ordinary perception combined with conscientiousness. With one or two most unimportant exceptions, I know of no instance where an openly professed Homœopathic practitioner has had occasion to retrace his steps.

"Many of these men have given proof of the sincerity and endurance of their belief, by publishing the record of some of the cases they have treated. One or two examples must suffice. Dr. Henderson, the Professor of Pathology in the University of Edinburgh, became a convert some five or six years ago.

"In a work published in 1845, he says, 'If I knew anything of Homœopathy, whether in my own practice or in that of others, that rendered it unworthy of the earnest attention of medical practitioners, I would not hesitate to make it known.' His experience since this was written must have been very considerable, and the proof that he has found nothing that renders Homœopathy different to what he then believed is to be found in the fact, that he has repeatedly published articles in the *British Journal of Homœopathy*, in which he has again and again expressed himself fully satisfied with the results of his Homœopathic treatment of disease. Again Dr. Tessier, the physician to the Hospital of St. Margaret, in Paris, after trying a series of the most scientifically conducted experiments, has recently published a record of them, and has openly avowed himself a convert. Space, however, would fail me if I attempted to enumerate the authors who have written works of the description here referred to. The eminent men I have named must suffice for examples.

"Various trials of the treatment have been made under the supervision of public authorities. The first occurred in Vienna, in the year 1828. The government resolved on testing the system in the military hospital of the Josephinum. They appointed a commission of allopathic professors to inspect the treatment under Marenzellar. As a body,

the commissioners reported that they were unable to decide for or against the treatment ; but two of the number (the eminent professors Jäger and Zang,) published a brief outline of the cases treated, and expressed their surprise at the happy issue of some of them. Another member of the commission declared his conviction of the efficacy of the system, and has since remained an open adherent of it.

" In 1832, when the cholera was raging in Vienna, the Government sanctioned the treatment in the present Homœopathic hospital, on condition that two Allopathic physicians should be appointed to report on the nature of the cases taken into the hospital, as well as to observe the course of treatment. The report of these commissioners shows that, whereas two-thirds of those treated in the Homœopathic hospital recovered, two-thirds of those treated in the other hospitals at the same time died. Indeed, so striking was the result, that the Austrian government repealed the existing laws against the practice of Homœopathy, and endowed the hospital.

" In 1824, in Naples, Dr. Necker, the physician to the General in command of the Austrian army of occupation, opened a sort of dispensary for the treatment of the poor Homœopathically. Dr. Quin, now of London; Dr. de Horatius, physician to the King and to the military hospital; Dr. Romani, physician to the Queen; Dr. Schmitz, surgeon to the Austrian Army; Professor Quaranter, of the University of Naples, and several other eminent practitioners were invited to attend. This inquiry terminated in the conversion of every one of the eminent men here named, all of whom remained ever after staunch supporters of Hahnemann's doctrines.

HOMŒOPATHIC EXPERIENCE.

To the Editor of the *Homœopathic Times*.

SIR :—The month following my recovery, Miss M. L.—put herself under my treatment. The doctor said she was in a rapid decline, and gave her no hope of cure. At this time she could hardly breathe ; she had headaches, toothache, pains in the back, legs and feet swelled, which became red with the slightest exercise. A few doses of *Pulsatilla*, 3 globules, 18th dilution, weekly, cured all, except the tightness in breathing, which was removed by one dose of *Stannum*. Thus an illness, which had lasted for years, was cured in a few weeks, by weekly doses of 3 globules of *Pulsatilla*.

A curious circumstance occurred during this treatment: a few days after taking the first dose, the patient astonished her family by declaring her intention of going to church. The family had for so long a time considered her as

a dying person, that they never contradicted her, and heard in silence, firmly believing that she would return after walking a few yards. However, she went to church, and did not afterwards suffer from the exertion. A few days after this, she spent the evening with a friend, and drank coffee. That night she could not sleep, and the next day she felt as ill as ever. Her sister came to me, to report her state. I had studied my books so well, that I immediately knew that the coffee she had taken had destroyed the good effects of the *Pulsatilla*. I forbade coffee, and repeated the *Pulsatilla*. This patient was of a consumptive family ; one sister had died of consumption. Another sister, in the year 1838, was given over in consumption. She was put under my care. At that time, one of the Guernsey doctors came to me to examine my patients, and inquire into the system of Homœopathy. He examined the young woman, and said that "she was beyond medicine." I then proposed his trying the case. He was a very young man, and agreed to do so. As I already minutely studied the case, I gave him the proper medicines in doses, and directions how to use them. He cured the patient, who is now alive and in good health. The young doctor was so struck with the cure he had performed, that he began to practice Homœopathy, for which purpose I lent him my books and box of medicines, but the dread laugh of his brethren soon made him give it up, and, to my great grief, I lost this hope of being relieved from toil which was greater than my strength. Miss M. L.'s recovery brought me a rush of patients ; many I refused, as I would not clash with the doctors, and received none but those pronounced incurable by them, except the poor children of our parish, whom I looked upon as part of my family.

I wanted more books, and got from Paris Hahnemann's works in French, and the remainder of the medicines named in Jahr, as my brother's box only contained sixty medicines. The books I studied carefully, and never gave a medicine which had not the patient's symptoms in Hahnemann's provings. I was sometimes from ten to twelve days before satisfying myself on the choice of a medicine. This was dreadful fatigue for a person ignorant of medicine, and only a few weeks recovered from a state of debility which had confined her to a sofa for three years. The gratitude I felt for my recovery, which I could best express by toiling for the relief of other sufferers, could alone have enabled me to bear up under so great a press of patients, as before Christmas my weekly patients exceeded thirty in number.

HARRIET CHEPMELL.

St. Sampson's Rectory, Guernsey.

HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF NEW-YORK.

The proceedings of this Society have just been received, in a neatly printed pamphlet of 42 pages.

The annual address was delivered by F. Vanderburgh, M. D., in the Assembly Chamber in Albany, to a highly respectable audience of legislators and citizens, &c. Dr. V. undertook "to enforce the necessity of attenuated drugs in the cure of disease," by "the infinitesimal combinations of matter that constitute the structure of the human body at its standard of health." It may be owing to our obtuseness, but we do not perceive the relation of these subjects, not even after a careful reading of the address.

Dr. V. has a remarkably active mind, but it is not logical. His perceptive faculties are large, his brain active, but his reasoning faculties are not equal to his perceptive; this mental organization leads him to unnatural combinations, and the result is "confusion worse confounded." However, we do not mean to be understood to say that the address under notice is not interesting; it is highly so, there is much creditable ingenuity displayed by the author.

We doubt if such an address just at this time, before a popular audience, tends to promote the spread of Homœopathy.

The officers of the state society for the ensuing year are: Dr. F. Vanderburgh, President; Dr. L. Clary, 1st Vice President; Dr. E. Humphreys, 2d Vice President; Dr. E. Lewis, 3d Vice President; Dr. H. D. Paine, Secretary and Treasurer. The next meeting will be held in the City of Albany, on the third Wednesday of February, 1852.

NEW PROPOSITION.

As we desire to extend the circulation of this Journal as far as possible, we have concluded to make the following proposition to physicians and the friends of Homœopathy, which we hope will be responded to without delay, viz.:—We will send eight copies to one address for five dollars (\$5); twenty copies for ten dollars (\$10); fifty copies for twenty dollars (\$20), cash in advance.

Volumes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of this Journal may be had, at \$1 00 each, of Messrs. Rademacher & Sheek, Philadelphia; Otis Clapp, Boston; and of the Editor, 762 Broadway, New-York.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HOMŒO- PATHY.

The next Annual Meeting of this institution will be held in New Haven, Connecticut, on the second Wednesday of June next.

It is desirable that there should be a large attendance, as many things should be considered in which the interests of Homœopathy are concerned. It is also important that practitioners of the Homœopathic school should be acquainted with one another, and this cannot be accomplished so well as by annual meetings.

We take the liberty, therefore, to urge upon our colleagues not to fail to be present at the meeting of the Institute in June next.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Cincinnati Journal of Homœopathy. This is a new monthly periodical of 16 pages, published in Cincinnati, Ohio, and edited by Drs. B. EHRMANN, A. MILLER, G. W. BIGLER.

The first number is got up in good taste, in fact we could not say otherwise, for it resembles our own. This periodical will advocate the true Homœopathic doctrine, and for a first number, we are favorably impressed with the talent and learning of the editorial department.

We have no jealous feelings at the appearance of the Cincinnati Journal, for we have experience enough in business operations, to teach us that every additional periodical advocating Homœopathy, tends to awaken a more general interest in our system of healing, and thereby helps to increase our own circulation. On this principle, therefore, we shall expect a long list of subscribers from Cincinnati; and we hope our brethren of the new Journal will not hesitate to appoint an agent in the city of New-York.

Homœopathic Domestic Physician, containing the treatment of Diseases, &c., by J. H. PULTE, M. D., Cincinnati: H. W. DERBY & Co., and H. F. DAVIS: 1850.

This work has been upon our table for some time, but we have only had time to give it a cursory examination, which impressed us favorably. The Cincinnati Journal of Homœopathy says of it: "This work is especially adapted to domestic practice—plain and simple in its arrangement, easily understood by

those who are unacquainted with the technicalities of the profession. It is, in this respect, superior to any work of the kind we have seen."

The sale of this work has been so rapid that a new edition will soon be called for. It can be had in this city, at Smith's Pharmacy, 488 Broadway.

Valedictory Address, delivered at the third Annual Commencement of the Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania, March 3d, 1851. By WALTER WILLIAMSON, M. D., Professor of Obstetrics, etc.

This address is creditable to the author, and we have been informed that he has proved himself worthy the chair he occupies in that college. The number of Matriculants of the college for the session of 1850-51 is 70, Graduates 29.

The British Journal of Homœopathy.

The January number, 1851, of this periodical, has been reprinted from the English copy, by William Radde. It is got up in good style by Angell, Engel & Hewitt, Printers, who, by-the-by, understand their business thoroughly.

Subscribers in Philadelphia, Pa., may hereafter, if they prefer it, receive this Journal regularly from Rademacher & Sheek, to whom they will please pay the amount of Subscription.

Subscribers in Boston, Mass., are informed that Otis Clapp is our Agent in that City, and this Journal can be obtained from him regularly.

In Cincinnati, Ohio, our Agents are J. F. Desilver, No. 112 Main street; and Dr. H. F. Davis, No. 125 Main street. Subscriptions paid to either of these gentlemen will be acknowledged by us.

We must decline, hereafter, sending this Journal to any one unless the subscription is paid. Experience has taught us that this is best for all concerned. After this number, those to whom the subsequent numbers are sent, will understand that what they may have remitted to us is received, or a friend has paid the subscription for them, or that we have seen fit to manifest our respect by sending it gratuitously.

NOTICE.

The reader will please notice that this is the 1st number of the 6th volume of this Journal, a large edition of which is published, and numbers sent to the friends of Homœopathy as a specimen of the work. All who desire its continuance must comply with the terms—payment in advance.

Just Published,
THE FEBRUARY NUMBER OF
**THE NORTH AMERICAN HOMŒO-
PATHIC JOURNAL,**

A Quarterly Magazine of Medicine and the Auxiliary Sciences. Conducted by CONSTANTINE HERING, M. D., Philadelphia; E. E. MARCY, M. D., New York, and JAMES W. METCALF, M. D., New York.

This Journal will consist of 144 pages quarterly, and will contain provings of new remedies in an appendix. It will be published on the first of February, May, August, and November.

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**Homœopathic Medical College
of
PENNSYLVANIA,
Located in Filbert Street, above Eleventh,
PHILADELPHIA.**

The Lectures of the regular course will commence annually on the first Monday of November, and continue until the first of March ensuing.

Preliminary Lectures will be delivered in the College from the first Monday of October until the commencement of the regular course.

Amount of fees for a full course of Lectures,	\$100 00
Students who have attended two full courses in other schools,	30 00
Matriculation fee, paid only once	5 00
Practical Anatomy,	10 00
Graduation fee,	30 00

The Commencement will take place early in March.

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THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMEOPATHY.

"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."

VOL. 6.

New-York, June, 1851.

No. 2.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

Angell, Engel & Hewitt, Printers, 1 Spruce-st.

This JOURNAL will be issued on the first of each month, at ONE DOLLAR a year in advance. City subscribers will be regularly served at their residences by sending their names to 762 Broadway.

Subscribers may remit to the Editor, by mail, the amount of their subscription.

Subscribers can have the Journal sent to them by mail, on the above terms.

All communications must be addressed (post paid) to the Editor, 762 Broadway.

American Journal of Homœopathy.

NEW-YORK, JUNE, 1851.

THE ABUSE OF COLD WATER.

COLD water has been employed from the earliest periods as a therapeutic agent, as well as for purposes of cleanliness. The great law-giver of the Hebrews, in framing his moral and dietetic code, did not overlook the importance of daily ablutions as a means of promoting the physical and mental condition of his followers. In using the expression, physical and mental condition, we write advisedly ; for who can doubt the immense influence of personal cleanliness upon the thoughts, morals, and habits, as well as upon the physical organizations of men. The ancient Greeks and Romans were also well aware of the value of water, both as a preservative and a curative agent, as their numerous and extensive public baths, and the frequent allusions made to them by the old writers, abundantly testify. Frequent ablutions constitute a part of the religion of the Moslem, and, if the opinion of a Christian may be allowed, decidedly the best part. Mahomed, who was an excellent judge of the wants of his countrymen, thus addresses the true believers in the Koran : " When ye prepare yourselves to pray, wash your faces, and your hands unto the elbows ;

and rub your heads, and your feet unto the ankles, and if ye be polluted, wash yourselves all over." But it is only within the present century that water has been recognized as a distinct and important therapeutic agent. The first systematic course of treatment by the external and internal employment of cold water, originated with the distinguished Dr. Nathan Smith, for many years professor of surgery in the medical department of Yale College. There are numerous cases reported, especially of fevers, in which the professor resorted to the cold dash and the wet sheet, with eminent success ; but the practice died with him, since no one of his professional friends possessed the moral courage to follow his bold example. To Priessnitz, however, belongs the credit of having carried out, in all its details, the present system of what is called *Hydropathy*. Priessnitz undoubtedly claims too much for his applications in a therapeutical point of view, and his disciples, both well and sick, have often received injury from their injudicious use ; yet we deem the occasional employment of hydrotherapy, a valuable auxiliary to homœopathic remedies in certain diseases. The power of cold water applications in modifying the functions of the body, in abstracting the animal heat, and in depressing the energies of the system, is not sufficiently understood by the public. They are taught to believe that so simple an agent as water is harmless, and that no unpleasant consequences can result from its free and indiscriminate use, both in health and disease ; but this is an error of importance ; since frequent applications of cold water to the surface of the body, serve to withdraw suddenly a greater or less amount of its caloric, and thus render necessary constant reactions of the organism to restore the disturbed equilibrium, which tend to impair its vigor and endurance. On this subject, we translate some remarks, by M. Léon Simon, from the April number of the "*Journal de la Médecine Homœopathique*." " Water is a general agent, the use of which is not as yet sufficiently appreciated. I regard its action as useful as that of air ; and I believe that certain processes of hydropathy are as capable of benefitting the sick as a residence in the country. But the use of cold water ought to be directed with the greatest circumspection ;

for the hydropathic courses are not without danger. I have often seen invalids who have followed the treatment of Priessnitz in all its vigor ; these have acquired strength and ceased to suffer ; but they have rapidly grown old, and have died early. It appears that the hydropathic practice exhausts the life of the patient, and that it gives no more energy to the vital force than it exhausts by its action."

M. Pénoyé also sustains the opinion of M. Simon, and cites the case of Baron Chabault, who was a great partisan of hydropathy, and the first in France to write upon the subject. He followed the method of Priessnitz with rigor, and died young, with all the signs of old age. M. Pénoyé adds, that he has seen chronic maladies considerably aggravated under the influence of cold water, and afterwards cured by homœopathic treatment.

The following conclusions of M. Clemens Hampe, who has written a *brochure* upon the subject, appear quite just. "The employment of cold water sometimes facilitates the action of specific medicines, by giving more force to the debilitated patient. It may also be useful in the treatment of medicinal diseases ; but as water is a general agent and not a medicine, it cannot *cure*, taking the word in its most rigorous acceptation. Finally, it is a valuable auxiliary of our specifics, but not, as a principal means, sufficient of itself to cure diseases."—*Hom. Times.*

C A S E S

By J. REDMOND COXE, JR., M. D., OF PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Mr. J. B., aged 47. Nervo-sanguineous temperament. Has not been sick, since infancy, until 1848, when he observed his urine was a very dark red, mixed with mucus, but not gritty. The quantity of urine much less than usual ; much pain in the kidneys, most on the left side, with slight burning in the ureter of that side. Crystals of uric acid in his urine ; much albumen ; swelling of the abdomen, and he complained of occasional pain in the pubic region ; in the bone, he thought. Took (Dec., 1848), *Uva-ursi*, *Cantharis*, and a great variety of other medicines, in large doses, from an allopathic physician. He derived no benefit, except from the *Uva-ursi*, which seemed to diminish the redness of the urine.

When I saw him, (Nov., 1850), the urine was exceedingly offensive after standing four hours ; the deposit of mucus was large ; the liquid was of a light pink color ; opalescent ; at times very turbid ; great pain in both kidneys, but most in the left one ; mind weakened ;

careless of existence ; appetite diminished ; digestion pretty good ; bowels costive ; had taken the soap pill every other day, for three or four months ; face pale, sallow and care-worn ; no inflammation of the prostate ; no evidence of the existence of a stone in the bladder ; very much emaciated.

Having had my attention directed to *Tannic and Gallic acids* by the London Journal of Medicine, by Dr. Alison, and also by the London Lancet, in an article by Mr. Sampson, who relate cures with massive doses of those acids, and being convinced that no cure can be obtained, except in conformity to the law *similia similibus curantur*, (palliations may take place, but they are not cures,) and, believing the cures detailed to be in virtue of the homœopathicity of those acids to the disease, I resolved to give them a trial.

I prescribed the 3d trituration of *Gallic acid* in grain doses, every four hours for six days. Much improvement resulted. The bladder less irritable ; pain in the kidneys less ; urine only slightly offensive after standing twelve hours. The same medicine and dose repeated every six hours for a week. Marked improvement ; appetite good ; walks with some pleasure ; mind and general appearance much improved ; he is now sanguine of a recovery of his health. No pain ; no albumen ; no sediment in the urine, though cloudy, and at times a little pinkish in color. Directed the same medicine and dose twice a day for one month. At the end of January, 1851, his altered appearance was very remarkable ; has lost all pain ; was cheerful ; no abdominal swelling ; this had almost disappeared in six weeks from the commencement of my treatment ; sleeps well ; very good appetite and digestion ; walks and rides daily with pleasure, formerly they were attended with pain ; urine straw color, and free from all albuminous or reddish matter ; no sediment. I advised a dose of the same medicine every morning for some months. Now, April 10th, 1851, he appears to be, and says he is, as healthy, in every respect, as he ever was ; has gained, since November, 1850, 17 lbs. of flesh, and has ruddy cheeks and an active mind.

CASE 2. Lydia R., aged 27. Nervo-bilious temperament. Has had, for 5 or 6 months, palpitation of the heart ; dyspepsia ; costiveness. Is pale and emaciated. Has much pain in the back and right thigh ; also in the bladder and pubic bone ; passes urine too fre-

quently; urine bloody, very turbid, loaded with albumen, and very offensive after standing three hours; no appetite; mind much affected; very desponding; thinks she has consumption. Has had prolapsus of the womb since the birth of her last child, 19 months ago; had a tedious labor, and took several large doses of *Secal. Cornut.* Leucorrhœa slight. Has taken nothing, save Rhubarb Pills and astringent injections.

In this case, I gave *Tannic acid* of the 2d trituration in grain doses, four times a day for one week. No improvement. I then prescribed *Gallic acid*, 3d trituration, in grain doses, six times a day for one week, at the end of which time there was improvement. Continued the medicine four doses a day, for two weeks, with marked improvement. Same medicine twice a day for a month, then once a day for six weeks. She was perfectly restored, except the *prolapsus uteri*, for which she is yet under treatment. She had gained 9 lbs. on April 2d, 1851.

CASE 3. M. R., aged 52. Nervous temperament. Very passionate, self-sufficient and over-bearing. Has not been sick since 1815. Then had intermittent fever, and took *Arsenic* in large doses, and was cured in 5 or 6 weeks. In 1849, had choleric for one day, was cured by *Veratrum*, 3d. In January or February, 1850, felt an inconvenience in urinating; had to strain hard before the first drops were voided, then a full stream. No stricture, nor stone, nor inflammation of prostate. Urine, at first, natural, soon became cloudy, and deposited a thick mucus in the chamber, at times yellow, and became offensive in 10 or 12 hours. Took *Cannabis*, *Cantharis*, *Berb.*, *Puls.*, *Uva-ursi* and other medicines, but with no effect. In Aug., 1850, had burning pain in left *ureter*, both before and after micturition; great pain in the bladder; a severe pressing, squeezing pain; had to rise several times during the night, thinking his bladder was full, and, by great exertion, voided about a wine-glassful of dark, reddish and turbid urine. The reddish color was, evidently, blood corpuscles broken down. Pain in his back; numbness in both thighs. During the day, none of these symptoms occurred, except the straining to void the first few drops of urine, and during the day-time, as near as I could judge, it was of a natural color and odor. I gave *Ioduret of Mercury*, 3d tritura-

tion, three times a day for a week, with some improvement. Then the same medicine of the 6th potency; then the 2d potency, with but little benefit.

At this time, October, 1850, I resolved to try the *Tannic acid*. I gave four doses a day, 3d potency, for three weeks. Did not perceive any effect. Waited a week, and then commenced with *Gallic acid*, four times a day for one month. Slight improvement. The same medicine continued four times a day, till January, 1851, and much improvement. Since then, he has taken it two or three times a day, and is doing so now, with the following results: viz., no pain in the back; no pain or burning in *ureter*; very slight pain in bladder; rises only once during the night, and says if he could only void the first half ounce as freely as the remaining quantity, he should consider himself well. I do not, however, regard him as well, by any means, and I am now satisfied that the *Gallic acid* will not do in his case.

D R O W N I N G .

A Letter to Dr. W. Hyde Wollaston, written, at his solicitation, by Captain Beaufort, describing his sensations whilst in the act of drowning.

" Dear Dr. Wollaston,—The following circumstances, which attended my being drowned, have been drawn up at your desire; they had not struck me as being so curious as you consider them, because, from two or three persons who, like myself, had been recovered from a similar state, I have heard a detail of their feelings, which resembled mine as nearly as was consistent with our different constitutions and dispositions.

" Many years ago, when I was a youngster on board one of his Majesty's ships, in Portsmouth harbor, after sculling about in a very small boat, I was endeavoring to fasten her alongside the ship, to one of the scuttle-rings; in foolish eagerness I stepped upon the gunwale, the boat of course upset, and I fell into the water, and not knowing how to swim, all my efforts to lay hold either of the boat or of the floating sculls were fruitless. The transaction had not been observed by the sentinel on the gangway, and therefore it was not till the tide had drifted me some distance astern of the ship, that a man in the foretop saw me splashing in the water, and gave the alarm. The first lieutenant instantly and gallantly jumped overboard, the carpenter followed his example, and the gunner hastened into a boat and pulled after them.

"With the violent but vain attempts to make myself heard, I had swallowed much water; I was soon exhausted by my struggles, and before any relief reached me I had sunk below the surface—all hope had fled—all exertion ceased—and I felt that I was drowning.

So far, these facts were either partially remembered after my recovery or supplied by those who had latterly witnessed the scene; for during an interval of such agitation a drowning person is too much occupied in catching at every passing straw, or too much absorbed by alternate hope and despair, to mark the succession of events very accurately. Not so, however, with the effects which immediately ensued; my mind had then undergone the sudden revolution which appeared to you so remarkable, and all the circumstances of which are now as vividly fresh in my memory as if they had occurred but yesterday.

From the moment that all exertion had ceased—which I imagine was the immediate consequence of complete suffocation—a calm feeling of the most perfect tranquillity superseded the previous tumultuous sensations—it might be called apathy, certainly not resignation, for drowning no longer appeared to be an evil—I no longer thought of being rescued, nor was I in any bodily pain. On the contrary, my sensations were now of rather a pleasurable cast, partaking of that dull but contented sort of feeling which precedes the sleep produced by fatigue. Though the senses were thus deadened, not so the mind: its activity seemed to be invigorated, in a ratio which defies all description—for thought rose after thought with a rapidity of succession that is not only indescribable but probably inconceivable by any one who has not himself been in a similar situation. The course of those thoughts I can even now in a greater measure retrace: the event which had just taken place—the awkwardness that had produced it—the bustle it must have occasioned (for I had observed two persons jump from the chains)—the effect it would have on a most affectionate father—the manner in which he would disclose it to the rest of the family—and a thousand other circumstances minutely associated with home, were the first series of reflections that occurred. They took then a wider range—our last cruise—a former voyage and shipwreck—my school—the progress I had made there, and the time I had mis-spent—and even all my boyish pursuits and adventures. Thus travelling backwards, every past incident of my life seemed to glance across my recollection in retrograde succession; not, however, in mere outline, as here stated, but the picture filled up with every minute and collateral feature; in short, the whole period of my existence seemed to be placed before me in a kind of panoramic review, and each act of it seemed to be accompanied by a consciousness of right or wrong, or by some reflection on its cause or its consequences; indeed many trifling events which had long been forgotten then crowded

into my imagination, and with the character of recent familiarity.

"May not all this be some indication of the almost infinite power of memory with which we may awaken in another world, and thus be compelled to contemplate our past lives? Or might it not in some degree warrant the inference that death is only a change or modification of our existence, in which there is no real pause or interruption? But, however that may be, one circumstance was highly remarkable; that the innumerable ideas which flashed into my mind were all retrospective; yet I had been religiously brought up—my hopes and fears of the next world had lost nothing of their early strength, and at any other period intense interest and awful anxiety would have been excited by the mere probability that I was floating on the threshold of eternity; yet at that inexplicable moment, when I had a full conviction that I had already crossed that threshold, not a single thought wandered into the future—I was wrapt entirely in the past.

"The length of time that was occupied by this deluge of ideas, or rather the shortness of time into which they were condensed, I cannot now state with precision, yet certainly two minutes could not have elapsed from the moment of suffocation to that of my being hauled up.

"The strength of the flood-tide made it expedient to pull the boat at once to another ship, where I underwent the usual vulgar process of emptying the water by letting my head hang downwards, then bleeding, chafing, and even administering gin; but my submersion had been really so brief, that, according to the account of the lookers-on, I was very quickly restored to animation.

"My feelings while life was returning were the reverse in every point of those which have been described above. One single but confused idea—a miserable belief that I was drowning—dwelt upon my mind, instead of the multitude of clear and definite ideas which had recently rushed through it—a helpless anxiety—a kind of continuous nightmare seemed to press heavily on every sense, and to prevent the formation of any one distinct thought,—and it was with difficulty that I became convinced that I was really alive. Again, instead of being absolutely free from all bodily pain, as in my drowning state, I was now tortured by pain all over me; and though I have been since wounded in several places, and have often submitted to severe surgical discipline, yet my sufferings were at that time far greater, at least in general distress. On one occasion I was shot in the lungs, and after lying on the deck at night for some hours, bleeding from other wounds, I at length fainted. Now as I felt sure that the wound in the lungs was mortal, it will appear obvious that the overwhelming sensation which accompanies fainting must have produced a perfect conviction that I was then in the act of dying. Yet nothing in the least resembling the operations of my mind

when drowning then took place; and when I began to recover I returned to a clear conception of my real state.

"If these involuntary experiments on the operation of death afford any satisfaction or interest to you, they will not have been suffered quite in vain by

"Yours very truly,

"F. BEAUFORT."

For the American Journal of Homeopathy.

Our friend "Dixon" of the "Scalpel" has a very excellent paragraph on the title page of his sauey "Journal." We like it, because, to our mind, it is an embodiment of truth, and that kind of common sense which is of universal adaptation to the intellects of ordinary people. "Nature," says he, "is ever busy, by the silent operation of her own forces, endeavoring to cure disease. Her medicines are: air, warmth, food, water, exercise, and sleep. Their use is directed by *instinct*, and that man is most worthy the name of physician, who most reveres its (her?) unerring laws." Now this is not only intelligible, but it contains a mine of correlative reasoning rarely seen in the same number of words anywhere, though this may not be more clear to the mind of the man "David" than mill-pond mud. By the way, this reminds us that when "M. D., LL. D." David, in the plenitude of his vanity and bombast at this tail of letters to his name, desires to impress his readers with a due sense of his discernment and taste in medical literature, he usually makes use of the words—"as clear as mud," by which euphonious expression we are to understand, that he is "mens sana in corpore sano;" but—

"——Amphora capit

Institive currente rota, cur urceus exit?"

We leave the "balance wheel and file" to answer the question or not, just as he pleases, and proceed to notice a little piece of nonsense on pp. 86 and 87 of No. 8, 2d vol. of the Gazette. In No. 7, p. 82, there is published a letter over the signature of John Murray Carnochan. It is a very peculiar piece of composition, the *most* remarkable one of its kind that we have ever seen in print. There is no such thing as mistaking it for what it is not, for there sticks out in every line the most intolerable egotism, and the sneaking purpose of advertising himself a Surgeon of no ordinary accomplishments and skill. Dogberry

directed some one to write him down an ass, Dr. Carnochan has written himself down the glorious impersonation of folly and vanity combined. What? 12 seconds only "to amputate the male adult thigh," 14 seconds that of the adult female, and "35 seconds to take off both legs of the same man?" Proclaim it "trumpet tongued" in all the land, that I, John Murray Carnochan, wish the public to know who and what I am.

A correspondent of "David's" was not long in discovering that Dr. C.'s letter was neither more nor less than an *advertisement*, "unprofessional," and he might have added contemptible. But, although David confesses "to some degree of fastidiousness," he did not see through the mystic words of "dear doctor, yours very truly," therefore, "instead of making an abstract" of the letter alluded to, as Dr. C. expected, and, as "he intended," he publishes the letter itself. Why? Because there was no voucher for the "celerity" attained in the "several amputations," but that of the "authority of the writer." David had his "misgivings" to be sure upon this point, but what of that? Carnochan tickles me, ergo, I'll tickle Carnochan, for this is not deemed "exceptionable or unprofessional" among the learned, legitimate, regular, orthodox members of the profession.

The nonsense we speak of, however, is not the advertising, or the reason for it. This was, to be sure, foolish enough, but not quite so ridiculous as the editorial *pronunciamento* about "subscribers," "apprehension," "this Journal," "sinister purposes," "intimidated nor bribed," "pervert the Gazette," "our course," "esprit du corps," "never surrender our own independence," "choice spirits," "work for nothing and find himself," &c. All this is but as the "sounding brass and the tinkling cymbal," and so is the following:—"The inquiry will ever be, *not* what is expedient, politic, or popular? but only, *what is right!*" Oh, no! the "dear doctor" cares nothing for expediency, &c., not he, indeed, nor policy, nor popularity; these are all "fudge," his ambition is to do what's right, though he has "no pretensions to infallibility." Alas! how frail is man, yet how wise in his own conceit. It is well to know oneself, ere we speak that we *dare* not do. Is it *right* to be continually publishing one side of a *questio vexata*, and not the other? Is it *right* to

conceal the truth, and vindicate falsehood? Is it right to conceal from the readers of the Gazette, the triumphs and progress of Homœopathy, and to treat its claims to respect and investigation with levity? No! it is *not* right, but it is *expedient, politic, and popular.*

“A most unerring way
When people nothing have to say.”

Investigation would require time and thought, not so calumny. Is this the way in which enlightened physicians pronounce on the truth or falsehood of systems?

“Pudet hec opprobria nobis,
Et dici potuisse et non potuisse refilli.”

Little men with little minds should remember who it was that compared himself to a boy straying along the shore and amusing himself with picking up here a shining pebble, and there a shell somewhat prettier than usual, while the great Ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before him: they should remember, too, that another of a still loftier order than Newton, has taught us in words that burn, that proud man is—

“Most ignorant of what he's most assured.”

Wed not yourself, therefore, most sapient “David,” with too much obstinacy to opinions which you may have adopted for no better reason than because they were bequeathed to you by your respectable grandmother. If you will not sift what your ancestors have gleaned, you will certainly retain as much chaff as grain.

Now all the talk about “what's right,” is just so much “moonshine,” and quite as transparent. Neither the Gazette nor any other medical periodical of a similar character, dare tell the truth about Homœopathy. Anything but the truth is eagerly seized on and published, to keep the minds of men in ignorance of its claims to their respect and notice. By one it is called a “humbug,” and its practitioners “fools;” by another it is termed a “delusion;” by a third “charlatany;” and by a fourth a “crotchet.” Those who advocate it are “knaves and quacks,” its opponents—what? Fair dealing, honorable, and intelligent men? By no means do they resemble such, but rather approximate to the narrowminded, mean, and contemptible disputants, whose vanity outstrips their knowledge, and takes their reason prisoner.

We neither know nor care what are the

abilities of LL. D. David, it is enough for us to perceive in him, through the columns of his paper, the beau ideal of a medical Bombastes, the man of vast *pretensions*, but of amazing small accomplishments. Will such a thing as this presume to spread out the claims of Homœopathy, and then *argue* their validity with fairness? Not he, indeed, 'twould spoil his bread and butter, and make him look ridiculous in the eyes of the “regular brethren.” He well knows this, and knowing it, resorts (as all such characters do,) to evasion and deception to sustain him in his unmanly and contemptible course. He it is who is ever perpetrating “systematic frauds,” in his notices of Homœopathy, and his pretended quotations from Homœopathic writers.

In the Gazette for May 1st, page 100, there is a short article, headed “Extraordinary acuteness in Diagnosis and Therapeutics.” Intending his readers to regard him as *correct* and *veracious*, the editor uses the following language:—“The Homœopaths have made another *discovery*, which wholly escaped the genius of the immortal Hahnemann. It is somewhat dubiously chronicled in the last issue of their journal on the authority of an ‘acute observer!’” Hear it! “Certain medicines act best or chiefly on *one side* of the body—others on the *other side!*” as “Bromine acts most on the *right lung*, and Phosphorus on the *left!*” “This is of a piece, &c.” Here are quotations from the “last issue” of the American Journal of Homœopathy, (for May,) and as the readers of the Gazette are not likely to see that Journal, the *fraud* in making the transfer would not be detected easily. The truth, however, is, it served Dr. Reese's turn to falsify the paragraph he quoted, or rather to garble it to suit his purpose. The original reads thus, and is *without* italics.—“One acute observer has stated, that certain medicines act best or chiefly on one side of the body, others on the other side. This is a matter for the experience of other and many observers. But supposing, for example, it be true, that Bromine acts most on the right lung, and Phosphorus on the left, the Homœopathist would not refuse to choose his medicine according to this indication, because the pathological condition would be the same in either case.” It is 'nt the *first* time, Dr., that you have played *this* game, nor will it be the last; we admit you to be *au fait* at all such *little* meannesses, and no less so at

larger ones, you're a "bagatelle" of the first water and no mistake. Wasn't it cute in you? No doubt of it--so you thought a little more of the same sort of "gammon" would pass for honesty, and you did it thus:—"By the way, we find in an editorial in the same journal, the candid announcement, that no Homœopathist can ever 'direct the treatment of any disease to be conducted on general principles!' Rather indiscreet though true, nevertheless, and obviously for the reason that the sect have *no principles at all!* either general or special." This is Dr. Reese's *veracity*. The "editorial" reads *rather* differently, thus:—"Homœopaths can never use expressions like this one, which may be found in almost every acknowledged practical work in Allopathy, viz.: 'the treatment should be conducted on general principles.'" Now, Dr., you ought to be ashamed of yourself, for a more bare-faced lie than you have here perpetrated, has seldom or ever been seen in print. Putting marks of quotation to certain words of your own coining and arrangement, you present them to your readers as the genuine language of Dr. Kirby. You make him say what he did *not* say, and speak of "principles" as though *you* knew anything about them.

But why all this fierce hostility to Homœopathy and its advocates and practitioners? Why these *base* and *dishonorable* attempts to put it down? Why? Because the silence of contempt *could* not succeed in stifling it. It was not, and is not a matter that for a moment could be trifled with, therefore, being too serious a business to make a joke of, it must be sneered at and lied about in good set terms. The charge is indeed a happy one, and gladly accepted by us as the sure harbinger of ultimate success. So long as *darkness* lay upon the face of the earth, there was a dead calm and silence. But God said, "Let there be light," then "feuds and violence began."

There is certainly no telling *what* injury will result to Homœopathy from the gentlemanly opposition it encounters in the *Gazette*. It *may* kill and annihilate Hahnemannism, so we will ever advise Dr. Reese to go to the assistance of the distressed Mrs. Partington. With *her* mop and *his* journal, we should not be at all surprised if they succeed in keeping out the Atlantic.

KOPP.

HAHNEMANN'S PRACTICE.

"In a letter from Dr. Croserio, of Paris, to Dr. v. Bönninghausen, of Münster, (*N. Archiv*, i. 2, p. 31,) there are a few particulars respecting the practice of Hahnemann up to the period of his decease, of which the writer assures us he was often a witness. 'Hahnemann,' he writes, 'always made use of the well-known small globules, which were generally impregnated with the thirtieth dilution, both for acute and chronic diseases. Of these globules he directed *one*, or at most two, to be dissolved in a carafe containing from eight to fifteen tablespoonfuls of water, and a half or a whole tablespoonful of French brandy. One tablespoonful only of this solution was put in a tumbler of water, and this last the patient took by teaspoonfuls, on the first day one teaspoonful, on the second two, on the third three, and so on, a spoonful more daily until he felt some effect. He then diminished the dose, or discontinued the medicine entirely. In other cases he caused a spoonful of the first tumbler to be poured into a second tumbler of water, in others, from this last into a third, and so on to a sixth tumbler, and directed a teaspoonful to be taken from the last tumbler only, when he had to do with very irritable subjects. The cases were rare in which he allowed a table or teaspoonful to be taken daily from the first solution made with from eight to fifteen tablespoonfuls of water. If he gave a powder to be taken at once in a spoonful of water, that was always only milk-sugar. He never prescribed two different remedies to be taken alternately, or one after the other; he would always first learn the effects of one remedy before he gave another, even in patients who were treated by him at two hundred leagues distance. Neither did he change the medicines. Even in acute diseases it was rare for him to give more than one spoonful once in the twenty-four hours. But on the other hand, in order to quiet the patient or his friends, he gave frequent doses of plain milk-sugar. Hahnemann appeared in the latter years of his practice to employ his whole dexterity in diminishing the dose more and more. Hence he latterly employed olfaction very frequently. For this end he put *one* or *two* globules in a small medicine phial containing two drachms of alcohol mixed with an equal quantity of water, which he caused to be inhaled once or twice with each nostril, never oftener. My own wife was cured by him in this manner of a violent pleurisy in the course of five hours. In chronic diseases, happen what might, he never allowed this olfaction to be repeated oftener than once a week, and he gave besides for internal use nothing but plain milk-sugar, and in this manner he effected the most marvellous cures, even in cases in which the rest of us had been able to do nothing.'—*Organon, Dr. Dugéon's Translation.*

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS TO THE
EDITOR.

T. G. Comstock, M. D., of St. Louis, writes: "In no place has the opposition to Homœopathy been more bitter than in this city. The base assaults and epithets of the old school physicians know no bounds. Candidates of the St. Louis Medical University for the degree of Doctor in Medicine are even pledged to never practice Homœopathy under the penalty of having their diplomas revoked. This is effected by impressing the minds of students with the idea that Homœopathy is a species of quackery, and all who practice it must be quacks. The faculty require graduates to sign the following, viz.: "That he subscribe in a book (for the purpose) to the effect that he will, by every means in his power, maintain the honor and integrity of the profession and discountenance quackery and empiricism under all its forms. In violation of which the faculty reserve to themselves the right of revoking the diploma, or of publicly severing all connexion with the offenders."

You see they dare not mention the word Homœopathy, although they tell their graduates plainly, they mean it to be included in their definition of quackery. But we unto them. Their assaults upon the new school recoil upon their own heads. The adherents to our practice are all the time on the increase, and among the number, as a general thing, may be found the first and most wealthy of our citizens of this city. I think from six to eight thousand of the population are established in the superiority of Homœopathy.

This is certainly encouraging, and it is a common thing for the Homœopathic physicians of this city, to receive applications from flourishing towns in this state and Illinois to send them good practitioners of our school; but such demands we can seldom supply, in fact we want more in our own city. I trust ere long this scarcity may be remedied in a measure by our own colleges."

REMARKS.—The above statement in reference to the faculty of the St. Louis University is an unwarrantable assumption of power, which no student with the genuine American spirit in him would submit to. Has it indeed come to this, that after a man has studied medicine the required time, attended the requisite number of lectures, paid the full amount of the fees, passed his examination, and re-

ceived a diploma, setting forth that he is a learned man; but if at any period during his after life he should see fit to change his opinions of medical doctrine and practice, he renders himself liable to be called to account by this St. Louis Faculty, his diploma revoked, and thereby declared not a learned man, but an ignoramus and a quack? The St. Louis Faculty show ignorance of a gross kind by the use of the word "empiricism." Every truly learned physician knows, and the very best writers in the allopathic school admit, that the allopathic practice of medicine is empirical. We advise the said Faculty to revoke all their diplomas forthwith, for unless their graduates practice pure Homœopathy, they must necessarily violate the contract. We have seen in our day some silly things enacted by Faculties of Medical colleges, but none will compare with the St. Louis Faculty for absurdity.—*Editor.*

W. L. Woodbury, M. D., Fulton, Oswego Co., N. Y., writes: "The great cause of Homœopathy is moving onward notwithstanding the *gravity, dignity and nobleness* manifested by some uneasy and learned "regulars," we have with us. If the science of Homœopathy is so "foolish," why not let it alone? For if it be so it must have within itself the seeds of its own destruction.

Homœopathy is a great truth, "which," says Hahnemann, "men may disregard for a time until the period arrives when its rays, according to the determination of Heaven, shall irresistibly break through the mists of prejudice, and like Aurora and the opening day, shed a beneficent light, clear and unextinguishable, over the generations of men."

A. Walker, M. D., of Pontiac, Michigan, writes: "I am much pleased with the spirit in which your Journal is conducted and heartily subscribe to the principles it advocates. Homœopathy is steadily on the advance in this vicinity notwithstanding the most virulent and persevering opposition."

It is generally thought that when a man in an argument loses his temper, and indulges in vulgar personal denunciations of his opponent, that he has the weak side and is conscious of it; according to this rule, allopathists are in a "fix."

COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor of the *Homœopathic Times*.

SIR.—If among your readers there are those who suppose that Homœopathy is successful, chiefly in what are called nervous disorders, the following case may be useful in dispelling their prejudices. It is on many accounts interesting, but far less so on paper than to witness: for no language that I could use would avail to convey anything like a correct idea of the shocking, and to all appearance hopeless, condition of the poor child to whom it refers. Disease in its intensity was rapidly devouring a poor infant, in whom vitality was, as it is always I believe, in all cases of highly-developed scrofula, very low indeed. I am persuaded that we know as yet but little of the powers of Harmonic Medicine. I am persuaded, that the present generation is but picking up a few shells on the shore of the boundless ocean of Truth. Much of that ocean is, no doubt, reserved for future generations to explain and navigate. The Almighty has, I am convinced, placed at the disposal of the human race far, far more mercies than they at present suppose to be within their reach. But before they can be had, we must unlearn all that knowledge respecting disease and cure, which, derived as it has been from facts ill-understood and based on axioms which are not true, tends to nothing but confusion, and when applied to Harmonic Medicine leads us only into error.

I beg to offer to you, Sir, and to your readers many apologies, for taking the liberty of sending you this case. It has appeared to me possible that a case which seemed so hopeless may not be uninteresting. Should you, however, be of a contrary opinion, you will be good enough to burn this letter.

L. B. was born in the end of the summer of 1847. Her father and mother possessed at the time the most diseased constitutions. Indeed, her father died in March, 1848, of rapid consumption, as did her mother of the same complaint in October of the same year; and they were followed to the grave not long after, by the child that immediately preceded the one of whom I am now speaking. This poor little girl inherited from her parents nothing but a constitution devoured by scrofula. Within two months after her birth her eyes closed up completely, and there seemed to be no chance of her ever opening them again. When I took charge of her in April, 1849, she was, perhaps, the most pitiable object on the earth's surface. She was weak, puny, rickety, unable to stand for an instant. Her whole forehead was one mass of matter, for a shocking eruption covered it all. Her eyes were closed, and full of matter. She used to pass her life in the darkest corner of a little dark room, in a little chair, resting her head on her left arm, in order to prevent the smallest ray of light, for the photophobia caused by such a state was excessive. Large quantities of matter came continually from her nose; and her left

arm was constantly kept bandaged, for whenever the pus from her nose or forehead touched the skin, similar ulcers appeared. She was quiet, but seemed to be too ill to complain; and I am persuaded that her sufferings must have been intense. I do not dwell upon her condition, for most people know what a shocking thing scrofula in such a degree is, and what a shocking mass of sores it presents at times. It was impossible to get to see the state of the eyes themselves, for the horror of light was so great, that she never allowed them to be uncovered by her arm, and if it was removed by force, all that could be seen was a mass of matter. I showed her to a very experienced medical friend (a homœopath of many years' standing), and he gave me no hopes of succeeding in doing any good in the case.

It is not my intention to enter on any account of the treatment pursued, without any intermission, since April, 1849, for that would be occupying your time and space to very little purpose, unless a case exactly similar in symptoms and constitution were to present itself. It will be sufficient to say, that at this moment the little girl is in very good health, looks cheerful and happy, and tolerably healthy; walks alongside of her sister pretty strongly, and often singing as she goes; there is no eruption on the arm; there is no matter from the nose; the eyelids are nearly natural; the forehead is quite clean and white, nor does there remain at present any trace of the shocking state it used to exhibit, other than the presence of a few sears, caused by the pustules, and similar to those left by smallpox. She has but little photophobia remaining. We got to look at the eyes themselves a few months ago; one is completely destroyed, the tissues having no doubt been disorganised by the intensity of the inflammation. The other was then covered with a thick gray film, which did not, I believe, admit a ray of light, and rendered the pupil quite invisible. This film, on one eye, is, I hope, yielding gradually to continued treatment, for she now keeps it open usually, though she avoids strong light still, and we can see the pupil gradually appearing through the film. She can with that eye now distinguish a few objects, though with difficulty. And if it should please God to spare us both two years longer, I hope to procure the reabsorption of the film by which the eye is covered. In every other respect the child enjoys good health.

I beg to add that, with very little exception, this case has been entirely treated with very low dynamisations and very small doses; but I have some reason to believe that, in a case like this, where vitality is very low, somewhat larger doses than those employed might have been at times used with advantage. But at the same time, it must be added, that if sufficient doses of medicine had been given to produce any aggravation of the inflammation, or if high dynamisations had over-excited the system, the sight of both eyes would

have been irrecoverably lost. This is one of those cases which should speak volumes as to the truth of Hahnemann's warning, and the value of little doses. The doses employed here have been ordinarily from 1 to 3 globules, in about twelve spoonfuls of water, to take a teaspoonful once, sometimes twice a day. Larger doses would probably have only destroyed the sight entirely, the child would have remained uncured; and few but such as enjoyed the benefits of Hahnemann's friendship would have guessed the reason why.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
THOMAS R. EVEREST.

Wickwar Rectory, Feb. 20, 1851.

P. S.—Since writing the above, I have seen with great regret Dr. Dudgeon's letter in your last number. May I be permitted to say a few words on the subject.

For the last six or seven years of the life of Hahnemann, his constant effort, as Dr. Crose-rio truly says, was to diminish his doses to the least possible quantity capable of producing the desired effect. His reason, as he explained it to me, was this: if the physician knows the one, true, pure remedy that is exactly homœopathic to the case (for which, for reasons which I hope one day to be enabled to state, I venture to propose the term HARMONIC remedy), he cannot give too little of it, it is almost impossible; the most minute quantity acts surely, truly, perfectly. If he gives a larger dose of the HARMONIC remedy, and there is but one medicine harmonic at a time, than the case requires, either there is no reaction, and the symptoms do not change, or else the superfluity of the dose excites new symptoms, which puzzle and confuse the physician. If, however, the physician do not give the one true homœopathic (HARMONIC) remedy, but only one more or less nearly allied to it, he dares no longer trust to a very minute dose, but must increase it, so as to include the diseased organs in its action. But in this case he invariably, if there be any susceptibility, excites new disturbance, complicates the case, involves himself in difficulties, always retards the cure, and often renders it impossible. Large doses, therefore, are never necessary, except when a non-homœopathic (DISCORDANT) remedy is given. It is in fact a species of allopathy—an effort to compensate for want of knowledge by an increase of medicinal action. A fatal error! Dr. Dudgeon, Sir, has indeed done much for Hahnemann by his beautiful edition of the Organon, and other valuable services. Will he permit one of Hanemann's most attached friends to beseech him to believe that that glorious old man had well and truly, and anxiously studied the action of small and large doses, and compared them often and carefully before he decided on the exclusive use of small ones. I could tell you, Sir, and Dr. Dudgeon, a good deal about the preparation of Hahnemann's medicines; and

as I myself, with my own hands, made, under Hahnemann's own inspection, all the globules which he used for the last few years of his life, and prepared the various sieves of muslin and tulle (not metal), so that the globules might always be of exactly the same diameter, and know how anxious he was on the subject, I do earnestly beseech so true and valued a homœopath as Dr. Dudgeon, to give to the carefully-formed opinion of such a man as Hahnemann the weight it ought to have.

For my own part, Sir, if I had a son studying Homœopathy, I would give him this advice: diminish your doses and increase your knowledge of their properties.

MAGNITUDE AND REPETITION OF DOSES.

BY HAHNEMANN.

" My doctrines in regard to the magnitude and repetition of the doses will be doubted for years, even by the greater number of homœopathic practitioners. Their excuse will be, ' that it is quite difficult enough to believe that the minute homœopathic doses have at all the power to act upon the disease, but that it is incredible that such small doses should be able to influence an inveterate chronic disease even for two or three, much less for forty or for fifty days; yea, that after so long a time important results should be obtained from these imperceptible doses.' My proposition, however, is not one of those which ought to be comprehended, nor one which ought to be blindly believed. No one is bound either to comprehend or believe that proposition; I do not comprehend it, but the facts speak for themselves. 'The truth of my proposition is demonstrated by experience, in which I have more faith than in my intelligence. Who will undertake to weigh the powers which nature conceals in her depths? Who will doubt of their existence? Who ever thought that the medicinal virtues of drugs could be developed in an infinite series of degrees by means of trituration and shaking the raw material? Does the physician risk anything by imitating a method which I have adopted from long experience and observation? Unless the physician imitates my method, he cannot expect to solve the highest problem of medical science, that of curing those important chronic diseases which have indeed remained uncured up to the time when I discovered their true character and proper treatment. This is all that I have to say on this subject. I have fulfilled a duty by communicating to the world the great truths which I have discovered. The world was sadly in need of them. If physicians do not carefully practise what I teach, let them not boast of being my followers, and, above all, do not let them expect to be successful in their treatment.

" Is it proper we should reject a method of

cure until the play of those natural forces, upon which the method rests, shall have been revealed to the sight, and shall have been made accessible to the minds of children? Would it not be foolish to reject the practice of eliciting sparks from flint by striking against it with steel, for no other reason than this—that we do not understand how so much caloric could be latent in the flint, or how this caloric, after being elicited from the flint, could melt the little particles of steel which separate from the steel when we strike it against the flint, and in the shape of incandescent globules set the tinder on fire? We understand nothing of all this, and we have nevertheless followed for thousands of years the practice of eliciting sparks from flint by means of steel. It would be foolish to decline learning to write because we do not understand how thought can be embodied in written words. Just as foolish it would be to reject the method which I have discovered for the cure of chronic diseases, on the ground that we do not comprehend the mysterious agency which that method involves."

Louisville, Ky., April 7th, 1851.

DR. KIRBY—DEAR SIR,—The sublime truth developed by Hahnemann is rapidly gaining favor with the intelligent portion of the population in the South and West. In this city the friends of Homœopathy are numerous, and the number is increasing.

About forty students who matriculated last winter in our medical colleges, have adopted Homœopathy.

The attempt to teach our system of medicine in an allopathic college, ended here as it did in Cincinnati, in an utter failure, and I think the experiment will never be tried again in this region. This state of things led the friends of Homœopathy to ask the Legislature of this state for a charter for a Homœopathic college to be located in this city, which was granted, and the trustees will soon organize the college.

Homœopathy suffers here, as elsewhere, by the pretensions of "ignorant outsiders," who run up any flag to decoy and entrap their prey, and *eclecticism* has a wonderful tendency to encourage this dishonorable course.

The following tribute of respect was paid to Professor Gilman, which the committee request may appear in your Journal.

Respectfully yours,

THOMAS J. GRIFFITH, M.D.

At a meeting of the medical students in Louisville, held on the evening of the 5th inst.,

T. W. Sampson was called to the chair, and Thos. J. Griffith was appointed Secretary, when the following resolutions were read and unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That Prof. J. Gilman, (Homœopathist,) has always shown a deep and disinterested solicitude in the welfare and prosperity of all medical students, and has been untiring in his exertions to instruct and benefit his Class.

Resolved, That Prof. J. Gilman be requested to permit his likeness to be lithographed, as a slight token of our high regard for his transcendent abilities as a scientific lecturer and teacher of medicine, and for his urbanity and courteous bearing towards his Class.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to obtain Prof. Gilman's acquiescence, also, his permission to publish the proceedings.

COMMITTEE—David J. Griffiths, James Lewis, B. Franklin Chase, G. D. Beals, M.D., D. L. Stewart, M.D., J. H. Cory, M.D.

T. W. SAMPSON, M.D., Chairman.

T. J. GRIFFITHS, M.D., Secretary.

REPLY TO THE COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN—In reply to your committee I can only say, I beg of you to accept my warmest thanks for your very polite mark of esteem. Be assured I shall ever recur to this transaction with feelings of gratitude and pride. I accede to your request.

J. GILMAN.

The Homœopathic school has a regularly chartered college in Philadelphia, Pa., and in Cleveland, O., both in successful operation; and now another in Louisville, Ky., will soon be established. Notwithstanding this, in connection with the fact, that we have not, by some hundreds, well qualified practitioners of Homœopathy to supply the pressing demands of the people, from almost every part of the country; the cry is on the part of allopathists, "Homœopathy is going down." A singular direction for "down."—ED.

The New-York Register of Medicine, (allopathic), in a report of a case to the New-York Pathological Society, says, "he was under the homeœopathic treatment, and was taking the wine of colchicum in twenty drop doses, with McMunn's elixir of opium." For irony, this is pretty good. But why not give the name of that homeœopath? Send it to us with the above treatment well authenticated, and the doctor shall have the credit of it.

ANNUAL ADDRESS,

Delivered in Albany, before the Homœopathic Medical Society of the State of New-York, February 19th, 1851, by F. VANDERBURGH.

Editor of the Am Jour. of Homœopathy :

It is a well-worn saying that truth is stranger than fiction, and the above address would justify the aphorism that philosophy is sometimes more amusing than burlesque. We might, indeed, question the seriousness of its author, did not the constitutional gravity of his style, and the naïveté of his reasoning preclude such a rising thought. Little attention, however, would be due to this production were its claims purely private, but the case is different in the present instance, this essay being spread before the public on the authority of an ostensibly learned congress of professional men. Its publication by order of the New York State Academy merges its personal character into the voice of the school and the current history of Homœopathy, giving it the tacit sanction of every individual practitioner of the method and sending it forth to the world of New York as a libation from the great well of specific medicine, pure and undefiled. It may indeed be accounted impolitic, to reflect on the action of the State Society in giving this performance to the light, but I do not hesitate to say that it is a disgrace to that body, and that this judgment will ere long be confirmed and justified by every intelligent friend of our common cause. Meanwhile, examination may better begin in rather than out of the Homœopathic ranks.

Regarded as a whole, the document eludes all criticism, being above, below and without its province, betraying no apparent object beyond beguiling the hour allotted to it with empty declamation, and perplexing the attention with sham premises and imposing philosophic effigies, which like so many pastilles, at last dissolve in smoke.

Of the art of Homœopathy, of its history, is said virtually nothing—nay, we must except the bit of fussy antiquarianism ascribing the origin of its theory to Paracelsus (an honor, by-the-by, far more due to the Father of medicine) and the learned rationale of the treatment of felons which the writer unblushingly tells us are known by “any of Hahnemann’s disciples,” to proceed from a deficiency of silex in the diseased tissues. Most of Hahnemann’s disciples, on the contrary, know that he view-

ed iatro-chemistry with an almost sectarian aversion, and that the successful use of Hepar Sulph., Ammonia, Nitric acid, Phosphorus, &c., in felons, demonstrates the emptiness of the above hypothesis. “Non tali auxilio, etc.” The attempt to identify the differences between Allopathy and Homœopathy, with discordances of opinion as to the function of the lungs in the production of animal heat is the drollest specimen of “bogus” logic to be found in the pamphlet, and that is saying a good deal. The author’s remissness in elucidating this “mooted” point is the less excusable, as he tells us didactically that the popular theory of calorification is the one on which the Allopathic school base “all their calculations of life and health,” and again that it is “the foundation of their superstructure of life and health.” As a member of the Homœopathic corps, I find myself inferentially committed to the doctor’s pulmonary cooling theory with unmitigated surprise, and beg to disown it in favor of the heresies of Baron Liebig. I confess I am not of the opinion that “whales rise to the surface to exhale the heat they generate,” nor am I satisfied that the “genus homo, and the genus horse,” are the only animals which “can cool themselves by perspiration through the skin.” Bulls belong to neither “genus” and their proneness to diaphoresis is proverbial. Thus much of the contribution to Homœopathy.

To the leading thought of the book, its glory and peculiarity, I should scarcely expect to render justice without the aid of more muses than are to be invoked in one sitting—since Esop’s time hath never been seen a more grotesque display of borrowed plumage, nor have, I trow, the royal trophies of modern physiology ever before served at so trumpery a masquerade. It is a crude mass of truism and fancy, hypothesis and false fact, daubed with the untempered mortar of bad syllogism. Here is an orphic, too deep for Lyell or Agassiz.

“Mineral bodies are all binary compounds and grow by accretion, that is, by adding infinitesimal atoms of matter to their surface; and as these are forever forming in the earth, they are always generating heat in its bosom. When all the geological atoms were added together that constitute the substratum of the earth, the vegetable kingdom was introduced by multiplication. These are ternary compounds and rise in the scale of being, having another element added; vegetable bodies hold

an equal relation to minerals beneath them and animals above them, having their elements in common with both. At this period of time creation began to move onward more rapidly, as ternary compounds are capable of being multiplied, while binary compounds are only capable of addition—2 added to 2 are 4, and 2 multiplied by 2 is no more, hence the geological deposits were slow—3 differs from 2 in this respect, that it is capable of multiplication—3 added to 3 are 6, while 3 multiplied by 3 are 9. The foundation of the world being laid by binary combinations, it is seen how rapidly ternary matter would grow by multiplication; grass, vegetables, flowers, shrubs, and trees, would soon cover the face of the earth."

And the following sybilline mystery, to be found on page 7.

"The figure 2 appears to stand separate and apart from 1 and 3, as diamond stands from charcoal; and yet as we trace its relations to 1 and 3 it obeys the same law as the combining proportions of matter—it has neither beginning, middle, nor end. If we set down the numbers 1, 2 and 3, in this their order of succession, we shall see that 2 is a compound of 1 and 3, decreasing by degrees toward the number 1, and increasing by degrees toward the number 3.

It has no mathematical point, no centre, no sides, no beginning, no end. Its very parts are degrees and its degrees are deviations from 1 and 3; the degrees themselves being the difference, the difference is always changing, and it loses its identity in the numbers 1 and 3. So that the number 2, simple and prominent as it at first appears to be, forms not only an aggregate of the numbers 1 and 3, but forms equally with them parts of the remotest calculations in Algebra, and thus the law of numbers, in common with the combining proportions of matter, is co-equal, unbroken and eternal. We can illustrate this law by taking any three mineral bodies, that grow up in the same order of succession, as the numbers 1, 2 and 3 stand to each other—the elements of all being the same, they are, like numbers, composed of one another, and, although obviously distinct, yet they are so intimately related, that it cannot be told where one begins or another ends."

As to the "law" of the "physical construction of matter," about which the doctor and his book labor in abortive throes, it appears, to use a form of speech affected by profound progressionists, to be "involved in great difficulty," and until some handmaid of Lucina bring it to day, a puzzle too intricate for Mephistopheles himself. The judgment of "discreet matrons" would probably pronounce it a hybrid between the development theory of the "Vestiges" and the doctrine of equivalents of mod-

ern chemistry, and I might add, quite as promising as to fertility as hybrids generally.

The blunders in elementary chemistry are "too tedious to mention"—the following may however be instanced—"Iron is a binary compound," p. 15. "All substances that constitute the physical world, or the world of matter, that have yet been decomposed, are made out of the four invisible gases of oxygen, hydrogen, carbon and nitrogen," p. 12. "All vegetable substances are ternary compounds."

Why, doctor! the tea and coffee you drink daily contain carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, and nitrogen, these are the constituent elements also of albumen, fibrine, and caseine which, as every beginner in chemistry knows, are primarily of vegetable origin. On page 13, we are told that "in the beginning the world was made by addition—one atom of oxygen, and one of hydrogen added together gives the binary compound called water." Make the experiment, doctor! and you will find something more than "addition" necessary.

Returning to Homœopathy by a queer sort of *da capo*, the writer observes in a striking specimen of the "all 'round my hat" style of argument, "it must be obvious to you all from what has been said, that feeling the pulse, looking at the tongue, and asking where the pain is, would be a most vague and unsatisfactory inquest to a Homœopathic physician."

We admit his audience had some reason to draw such a conclusion, but Heaven protect us all from this offshoot in "rational" physic; we welcome back the above discarded practices together with their accessories of black broadcloth and gold-headed canes, as the harbingers of returning common sense.

The style of the above address is turgid, verbose and inaccurate. The writer talks of a "confiding trust"—"the period when men's judgments were exiled from their adjustment by fear of innovation"—"each successive genera,"—"infinitesimal relations,"—"attempts to spread enlightened judgments of practice among the opponents of Homœopathy,"—"a *materia medica* rich in the profusion of its proofs of the specific action of drugs," &c. Its author has evidently read considerable to little purpose, his forte is not metaphysics, not chemistry, not generalization, and for one, I commend his book to the table of the Scalpel, in the hope that after undergoing the difficult and trying persuasion employed by its

Editor, he may be prevailed upon either to speak better, or remain silent.

Yours, &c.,
J. T. CURTIS.

New-York, April, 26th, 1851.

[For the American Journal of Homœopathy.]

DR. KIRBY:—Dear Sir.—The general secretary of the American Institute, reminds its members that the eighth annual meeting will be held on the 11th day of Jane, at 10 o'clock, A. M., at the Temple, in the city of New Haven, Conn. And that the committee on elections will hold a meeting at the same place, at 9 o'clock, A. M., to receive the applications of those who may be desirous to be elected members of the Institute. As such persons may not be acquainted with the requirements of the by-laws, I beg leave to inform them, as one of the members of that committee, through the medium of your Journal, of what are deemed the preliminaries to such election.

The Institute appoints, annually, five of its members a committee on elections, any three of whom shall constitute a quorum. "The duty of this committee," say the by-laws, "shall be to receive credentials of candidates, and report such as may be found properly qualified, to the Institute, for election." And the 7th article reads thus:

"Any person who shall have pursued a regular course of medical studies, according to the requirements of the existing medical institutions of our country, and who shall have obtained a certificate of three members of the Institute as to his good moral character and general standing, addressed to the committee on elections, and by them found properly qualified in the theory and practice of Homœopathy, and so reported to the Institute, may be elected a member thereof."

The Institute has also admitted to membership, individuals who have received certificates of competency to practice medicine and surgery from *state medical societies*, which societies shall have received legislative authority to confer such privilege, but not to grant the degree of "doctor in medicine," as has been given to the regular chartered universities or colleges.

By a resolution adopted at the last meeting of the Institute,—“candidates who may be hereafter admitted to the membership of the American Institute of Homœopathy, who have

received a diploma from some regularly established medical college or institution, legally authorized to confer such degree, shall have the title of M. D. affixed to their names in all publications of the Institute; and all who have not such degree of doctor in medicine, but are eligible to membership according to the 7th article of the by-laws, shall have *prefixed* the title of Dr., and the committee on elections was so to report their names to the Institute.

As time is important at our meetings, it is respectfully suggested to gentlemen who desire membership, to present to the committee the credentials they may possess of their medical education or standing. No individual who may have such credential or credentials, can object to present them. The *letter* of the laws of the Institute requires it, and the committee, in the faithful discharge of its duty, must see that it is observed. It is farther necessary to prevent imposition. An individual, for example, who practices as a homœopathist in Baltimore, signed the constitution of the Institute, and affixed to his name, M. D. He represented himself as a *graduate* of the Pennsylvania College of Medicine, and when the truth was ascertained, he never was a graduate of that college, or of any other; nor was he a member of any incorporated state medical society. To prevent imposture, and to enable applicants to know what the laws of the Institute require, I ask the favor of you, Mr. Editor, to give a place to this communication in the June number of your Journal.

F. R. McMANUS.
Baltimore, May 10th, 1851.

The absurdly self-entitled "regulars," begin to complain of their appropriate name—allopathists. They should remember the old adage "what is sauce for the goose, is sauce for the gander." The term, homœopathists, was applied to us for a reproach by the "regulars;" but it being most suitable to distinguish us from others, we adopted it. It is too late for allopathists to change their name; Allopathy and Homœopathy are now household words, and well understood by the people. They will live in history.

It can't be. To practice genuine Homœopathy and keep on terms of friendship with allopaths, is an utter impossibility.

The allopathic school seeks a complete separation from the homeopathic, which is right and proper; but the medical colleges are public institutions, and never intended, by the law which created them, to interfere with the free exercise of thought and speech; they do not answer the design of their creation, if, by coercive measures, students are obliged to conceal their real sentiments, and solemnly promise never to countenance innovations in allopathy.

Distinction should be made between the allopathic school of medicine proper, and the medical colleges. The former consists of certain theories in medicine and a practice founded upon them, and is the work of the free action of many minds; whilst the latter is created by the people, through their representatives, as public or common institutions, into which all who see fit, can enter by paying a stipulated sum, and when found, by a personal examination, to understand what has been taught them by the different professors, they are entitled to the honors which usage has established in such institutions, and it is no part of the business of the professors what those persons who receive the *diploma* do with the knowledge they may have acquired. There has been, of late, an improper interference on the part of certain Faculties, with students, which demands, and will yet receive, the severest reprehension.

What right has a faculty to say to a student, "if you favor Homœopathy we will not give you a diploma?" They have no such right. Has it, indeed, come to this, that in this land of liberty, where the constitution of the country guarantees freedom in thought and speech, and the enjoyment of one's opinions, that the allopathic medical colleges, ordained under that very constitution, shall undertake, as some of them have, to deprive citizens of their dearest rights and privileges? But, say the Faculties, we have discretion in the question; to whom shall we grant the diploma? No, you have not. The question of discretion cannot come in the matter. The whole thing is governed by plain rules. 1st. Is the candidate 21 years of age? 2. Is he of good moral character? 3. Has he studied the requisite time? 4. Does he understand what has been taught him? These questions, upon suitable evidence, being answered in the affirmative, he is entitled to the *diploma*; not as a favor, not as a matter of

discretion on the part of the professors, but as a right. But, say the professors, he is known to favor Homœopathy, and may practice it. Well, what if he does? it is no concern of yours, no more than it is his business that you practice Allopathy. We cannot pursue this subject further at this time, but we are sure that the course of some of our medical colleges must be changed, or the people will demand a repeal of their charters.

We cannot relinquish our respect for the *diploma*, nor should the people count it of no value. The *diploma* is evidence of medical learning, although the holders of it may differ in their talents, acquirements and skill. He who has the requisite knowledge to practice medicine and surgery, has that which will secure to him a *diploma*, which, if neglected, he ought not to complain if he is looked upon as a quack.

A DOCTOR'S BILL.

In a case which came before the Judge of the County Court at Leicester, on Thursday, a doctor's bill (which was for medicine, &c., supplied to a lady in fourteen months) was held up to his Honor, and the person who had possession of it was about to express his opinion of it, but was checked. The following is an epitome of the bill:

Three applications to the throat, 2s. 6d. each.

Examination of the chest, and attendance, 7s. 6d.

Exploration of chest, 5s.

5 blisters, 1s. 6d. each

19 plasters, 1s. 6d. each.

20 single boxes of ointment, 1s. 6d. each, and 5 double ditto, at 2s. 6d. each.

7 pieces of lint, 1s. each piece; and 7 ditto, at 1s. 6d. each.

398 bottles of mixture, at 2s. 6d. per bottle.

62 ditto of cough ditto, at 2s. 6d. ditto.

51 ditto of tonic ditto, at 2s. 6d. ditto.

14 ditto of chalk ditto, at 2s. 6d. ditto.

48 ditto of cod liver oil, at 2s. 6d. ditto.

26 ditto of embrocation, at 2s. 6d. each.

131 boxes of pills, at 1s. 6d. per box.

272 draughts, at .s. 6d. each.

7 evening visits, at 2s. 6d. each.

Total amount of bill. . . . £113 10s.

Total number of bottles of medicine, 570 !!!

Allopathy is unsafe, uncertain and pernicious, and he who holds to her, is behind the age in his knowledge.

Our correspondent handles our neighbor of the Gazette so ably and justly, that we will let him off this time, and say nothing ourself. Is it not time for a revised edition of "the humbugs of New-York," to enable the author to insert himself? That omission in the first edition rendered the work very incomplete.

We have received all the numbers of the North Western Homœopathic Journal, for which the editor, Dr. Shipman, will accept our thanks. Here is our ~~old~~, friend Shipman, and let our personal differences cease; you have had your say, and we have had ours, and they amount to tweedledum and tweedledee.

Homœopathy has more to fear from her friends, than from her enemies.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HOMOEOPATHY.

The American Institute of Homœopathy will meet at the Temple, in the City of New Haven, Ct., on Wednesday, the 11th day of June next, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Committee on Election of Members will be in session at the same place, on the same day, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

All applications for Membership must be accompanied by Certificate from three members of the Institute, certifying to the good character and qualifications of the candidate, and fee \$2.

A. E. SMALL,
Gen. Sec.
Phila., April 24, 1851.

NEW PROPOSITION.

As we desire to extend the circulation of this Journal as far as possible, we have concluded to make the following proposition to physicians and the friends of Homœopathy, which we hope will be responded to without delay, viz.:—We will send eight copies to one Post office for five dollars (\$5); twenty copies for ten dollars (\$10); fifty copies for twenty dollars (\$20), cash in advance.

Volumes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of this Journal may be had, at \$1 00 each, of Messrs. Rademacher & Sheek, Philadelphia; Otis Clapp, Boston; and of the Editor, 762 Broadway, New-York.

J. F. DESILVER, 112 Main Street, Cincinnati, is an agent for this Journal.

Subscribers in Philadelphia, Pa., may receive this Journal regularly through RADEMACHER & SHEEK, 239 Arch Street.

RADEMACHER & SHEEK,

Respectfully inform the Homœopathic Physicians and the Public in general, that they keep constantly on hand at their *Homœopathic Pharmacy*, 239 Arch-street, Philadelphia, a large assortment of Homœopathic Medicines in Mother-tinctures, Triturations, Dilutions and medicated Globules, which they sell either by the single vial or in Cases containing 12, 27, 40, 60, 70, 96, 104, 150, 200, 25th to 500 vials. Also Pocket Cases, in different forms, for Physicians, containing 53, 84, 102 and 136 Medicines, either in Mother-tinctures and Triturations, Dilutions or medicated Globules. They have just issued the Fifth edition of DR. C. HERING'S DOMESTIC PHYSICIAN, revised, with additions from the Author's manuscripts of the *Seventh German* edition. Containing also a tabular index of the medicines and the diseases in which they are used. Price \$2. Family Medicine-chests, made up expressly for Dr. Hering's book, at 6, 7 and 8 dollars, constantly on hand. Just received from Paris: *Medecine Homœopathique domestique*, par le Docteur C. Hering. Traduit de l'Allemand sur la dernière édition publiée par le Docteur Léon Marchant. Deuxième édition. Bound \$2. Also on hand, all English, German and French publications on Homœopathy.

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Homœopathic Medical College

OF

PENNSYLVANIA,

*Located in Filbert Street, above Eleventh,
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The Lectures of the regular course will commence annually on the first Monday of November, and continue until the first of March ensuing.

Preliminary Lectures will be delivered in the College from the first Monday of October until the commencement of the regular course.

Amount of fees for a full course of Lectures, . \$100 00
Students who have attended two full courses
in other schools, 30 00
Matriculation fee, paid only once : : : : : 5 00
Practical Anatomy, 10 00
Graduation fee, 30 00

The Commencement will take place early in March.

FACULTY.

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WILLIAM S. HELMUTH, M. D., *Professor of Homœopathic Institutes, and the Practice of Medicine.*

SAMUEL FREEDLEY, M. D., *Professor of Botany and Medical Jurisprudence.*

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THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."

VOL. 6.

NEW-YORK, JULY, 1851.

NO. 3.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

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All communications must be addressed (post paid) to the Editor, 762 Broadway.

American Journal of Homœopathy.

NEW-YORK, JULY, 1851.

LECTURE ON HOMEOPATHY.

BY DR. SCOTT, OF GLASGOW.

A REVIEW of the history of medicine will show that one cause of the acknowledged low condition of the practical department consists in the fact that most schools have made practice to depend on pathological theory. The argument was, that unless both pathology and pharmacology were perfect, pathology cannot be used as the guide in the employment of medicine, dwelling chiefly on the subject of pathology, which was considered to be in a very imperfect condition, very far indeed from warranting our adoption of it as a guide. I propose, in the present lecture, to consider the state of pharmacology or the knowledge of the *Materia Medica*, and to show that the Homœopathic school is not only more correct than former schools in the object of its search, viz., the knowledge of the powers of medicinal substances and the general law under which they act, but also in the manner in which that object is pursued, *i. e.*, in the manner of experimenting. The great want of the empiric school, who entered indeed, to a certain extent, on the right path, was a law to guide

them, to give unity to their observations; the answer, in short, to the question, in virtue of what property is it that the employment of a given substance will remove a given disease? It was a deep feeling of this want that led Dr. Hahnemann to inquire whether there were no method, as yet undiscovered or unexplained, of solving this question, and thus attaining a higher degree of certainty in the steps already taken, and of advancing constantly the science of therapeutics as well as those of anatomy, botany, chemistry, etc. "It was agony," he says, in a letter to Hufeland, "to walk always in darkness, with no other light than that which could be derived from works, when I had to heal the sick, and to prescribe, according to such or such an hypothesis concerning diseases, substances which owed their places in the *Materia Medica* to an arbitrary decision. I could not conscientiously treat the unknown morbid conditions of my suffering brethren by these unknown medicines, which being very active substances, may so easily occasion death, or produce new affections and chronic maladies, often more difficult to remove than the original disease." He therefore laid aside the practice of medicine, till recalled by the sufferings of his own family, to make a further effort at the discovery of a surer and less hazardous method. His deep feelings of devotion assured him that some such method existed, that the sufferings of man had not been neglected by "the Sovereign paternal goodness of Him whom no name can worthily designate," and who "provides liberally for their wants," and strong in the faith of a constantly superintending Providence, "a God who is goodness and wisdom itself," who had a meaning in every act, and in the bestowment of every property in creation, he "left the barren field of ontological explanations," and set himself to the more laborious task of actual experiment. But how should this be conducted? He felt that the knowledge derived from experiments on the sick had already proved itself insufficient, and resolved rather to "observe the manner in which medicinal substances act upon the body of man in the tranquil state of health. The changes which they then occasion," he felt assured "do not take place in vain. Perhaps this is the only language in

even our judges, as well as the members of our Legislature, at that period really believed that what allopathy thought to be quackery—was quackery. Now, under these circumstances, Henry D. Paine, M. D., now of Albany, a regular graduate of one of our colleges, applied to the Supreme Court for a mandamus to compel the Orange County Medical Society to admit him a member, as no one at that time was a legal practitioner unless he was a member of the medical society of the county in which he resided. This application to the Court was resisted by the Orange County Society, on the ground that Dr. Paine pretended to practice Homœopathy, which, in the opinion of the allopathic witnesses, was quackery—hence, says the judge, “In the case before us, it is fully in proof by professional witnesses, men who understand the subject, that Dr. Paine is practically a quack in his profession. This implies gross ignorance or gross misconduct, or both. We see, that if admitted, he should be expelled by the judges of the County Court.” This was the ground taken by Judge Cowan against interference in the matter, and possibly, under the then existing circumstances, especially believing that the allopathic “professional witnesses understood the subject,” we do not see that he could have decided otherwise. But there is a piece of history which Dr. Blatchford found it quite convenient to omit, although he knew of it, for he was, we believe, cited as a witness in the case. Several years afterwards, in view of Judge Cowan’s decision, the Medical Society of Seneca county undertook to carry out the opinion of Judge C., and presented charges to the District Attorney of Seneca county, against Doctor Williams, a member of said Society, for practising Homœopathy, which they pretended had been decided by the Supreme Court to be quackery. But on a hearing before the County Court Judges, in whose hands the law placed the final decision of such cases, the argument being conducted by the ablest counsel of the State, that Court decided that there was no cause of action, that the Supreme Court had not decided that Homœopathy was quackery, and dismissed the complaint, and since this decision, we believe no county society has dared to arraign any one of its members for practising Homœopathy. Why did Dr. Blatchford omit this case?

Again, this same question was involved in

matters that came before our Legislature several years afterwards, and that body got its eyes opened, and virtually decided that it could not judge of medical doctrine and practice; that as there were different schools of medicine in the State, each school was the best judge of its own doctrine and practice, and that each ought to have equal privileges in law, and the people be left to choose their own physician; this was almost a death-blow to allopathy; she has never recovered from it, and never can.

But Judge Lynch, of the Marine Court of this city, not knowing the change that had taken place in the medical law of this State, and looking only to Judge Cowan’s decision, made a most remarkable adjudication in a demand before him for a debt. He decided that, inasmuch as a Homœopath had to do with the essential point for the defendant in the case, in his professional character, the law, he thought, pronounced him no doctor, and because of this alone he gave judgment for the plaintiff. The case was appealed to a higher court, and Judge Daly gave a plain, common sense and able opinion, and reversed the decision of Judge Lynch.

Now, Dr. Blatchford calls this “the recent lapsus of Judge Daly,” or the editor of the Gazette does so, we do not know which; the language we find in the Gazette, and it may be the editor’s own, connected as it is with some of the usual sophistry of that man.

Having thus disposed of the legal decisions in regard to Homœopathy, we now come to other testimony to prove Homœopathy quackery.

This branch of Dr. B.’s address is certainly most remarkable. He presents the testimony of nine allopathic physicians, four of whom we happen to be personally acquainted with, and know the fact, from conversations with them, that they have no knowledge of Homœopathy, and we have good ground to infer that the same is true of all the rest. But what is the testimony of these men? It is this:

Homœopathy is a *humbug*, and her practitioners are knaves and fools. Upon this we remark, that it is not wise, and some people may think it not honest, for a person to give testimony of that he knows nothing. This is our opinion. In the next place, we repeat what we have said several times in this Journal, that the intelligence, professional learning and moral standing of Homœopathists gene-

rally, will not suffer by a comparison with allopathists. The people are competent, and will decide these points without the aid of Drs. John C. Bliss, Gilbert Smith, Isaac Wood, James McNaughton, J. C. Warren, O. W. Holmes and James R. Manly, who are Dr. Blatchford's living witnesses.

We refer the reader to our friend Kopp's communication, which was received after the above was written.

ADDRESS BY DR. BOND.

A friend has sent us a copy of the address of Dr. Thomas E. Bond before the graduates of Washington University of Baltimore, March 3d, 1851. At first we inclined to pass by unnoticed this poetical effusion of Dr. Bond, for it is so destitute of thought and so full of fancy, it being, in fact, a fancy sketch, that we thought it unworthy of the occasion and of the man. But on reflection, we think it right and proper to avail ourselves of the nonsense gravely put forth by Allopathists on Homœopathy, to show how utterly ignorant they, especially Professors, are of our system of medicine. Dr. Bond says :

" You may be succeeded by a *name*—by *Homœopathy*, a word which is not a sign—a mere *minus*, showing to indicate subtraction of everything, but having no positive value. The ponderous polysyllable *abracadabra* used to be pronounced over luxated joints, and it was believed, that a dislocated member would start at the sound and jump to its socket. Homœopathy is the modern polysyllable; the fashionable *abracadabra*—equally unintelligible and equally omnipotent.

" In the words of the simple cobbler of Agawam, ' I look upon it as the very gizzard of a trifle, the product of a quarter of a cipher: the epitome of nothing, fitter to be kicked, if it were of kickable substance, than either proved or humored.' Indeed, there is something too absurd for comedy, and too serious for farce, in this conception, which we cannot call ideal, because it contains no thought, nor monstrous, because it has no form.

Homœopathy avowedly contends with diseases beyond materiality. It wrestles not with flesh and blood—and truly its weapons are not carnal, for the qualities of its medicines elude analysis, and their bulk defies the microscope. I wish to be charitable, but to peddle about these little pellicles does seem to be a small business for 'men that have bones in them.' "

The above extract is enough to enable our readers to judge of the style of Dr. Bond and

his knowledge of Homœopathy. This Doctor affixes to his name A. M., M. D., which indicate that he lays claim to learning, although it does not follow, as everybody knows, that much learning necessarily constitutes a good reasoner. The second paragraph of our quotation is a curiosity when taken in connection with the other two. " This conception," says Dr. Bond. What conception? why, the brilliant one of the cobbler is clearly the antecedent of " this." The Doctor did not so intend, we admit, but such is the meaning of the sentence, and although a plain M. D. might blunder in that way, with impunity, but an A. M.—a " regular" master of arts, should be more careful. We would have passed this by, but Dr. B. had previously been descanting upon the ignorant Doctors his learned graduates would meet with in their professional career, and it occurred to us that he who lives in a glass house ought not to throw stones.

Again, look at the third paragraph in the quotation. What we make of it goes to show that Dr. B. holds the long ago exploded doctrine of the humoral pathology of Hippocrates. He aims a blow at the *vital* doctrine of the homœopathists and the dynamic nature of disease; a doctrine held in common by homœopathists and the acknowledged ablest writers of the allopathic school; which Dr. B. seems not to know, or he never would have penned that paragraph.

One remark more and we have done with Dr. Bond. He more than intimates that a poisonous substance that eludes analysis and defies the microscope cannot influence the human system. The Doctor has not considered the *miasms* of intermittent fever, typhus fever, the plague, the cholera, smallpox, measles, hooping-cough, and so on. These poisons which produce such terrific effects in human bodies, have not been analyzed, nor perceived by the microscope, and for anything known to the contrary, they may be attenuated beyond any drug used by a Hahnemannian.

We are happy to say, that nothing appears in the pamphlet before us, to show that the graduates or any one connected with Washington University requested a copy of Dr. B.'s address for publication, and we are left to infer that its appearance in print, is the voluntary work of its author; and we regret that

he did not consult an aged relative of his near at hand, whose opinion in that matter may have been valuable to him.

CLINICAL OBSERVATIONS.

BY VON BŒNNINGHAUSEN.

We find in the *Journal de la Médecine Homœopathique* for January, 1850, a clinical note, containing the substance of several conversations held with Dr. Von Bœnninghausen by Dr. De Bonneval. We give the results not as facts, but as suggestions worthy of record that the indications pointed out by our venerable colleague may be subjected to the test of experience. Dr. Von Bœnninghausen states it as the result of his observation that :

1. The more chronic the affection, the longer must be the interval between the administration of the drugs.

2. In those subjects in whom the remedies do not seem to act promptly, we must ascertain the cause that prevents their action.

(a) *Psora*. Administer a dose of *Psoricum* before giving the remedy corresponding to the totality.

(b) *Want of susceptibility*. *Opium*, especially in plethoric subjects.

(c) *In weak and emaciated patients with small pulse*. *Carbo Vegetabilis*.

(d) *Nervous excitement*. *Laurocerasus*.

3. Where the character of an affection has been disguised by the successive administration of a large number of homœopathic remedies, which, without curing, have only altered the symptoms, a single dose of *Psoricum*, a few days (ordinarily the fourth) before giving the medicine indicated.

4. Dr. Von Bœnninghausen's practice is to give the remedy dry, and in a single dose—most frequently alternating two remedies every fourth day.

He recommends the following specifics :

Asthma. Evening attacks, *Puls.*; morning ditto, *Ars.*; if the symptoms are principally in the throat, *Spong.*; in the chest, *Phosph.*; spasmodic, *Ipec.*

Bones, diseases of. *Merc. Sol.* is the principal remedy.

Diabetes. *Coloc.* is a specific.

Drunkenness habitual. The best mode of causing disgust of wine is to administer three drops of *Laudanum* or *Tincture of Opium* in a cup of coffee. *Ant. Crud.* is the best antidote to the effects of sour wine.

Erysipelas. It is the belief of M. Von Bœnninghausen that *Camphor*, administered every fifteen minutes, will cure even a severe erysipelas in the course of a few hours.

Fistula Lachrymalis. A cure may sometimes be obtained by the aid of *Petrol.* and *Silic.* in alternation. *Petrol.* and *Caust.* act very slowly.

Muscles, diseases of. *Arn.* is the principal remedy.

Myelitis. *Calc. Carb.* and *Silic.*, given at intervals of five months, have cured five cases of myelitis.

Panaris. *Sulph.* and *Silic.*, four days apart.

Paralysis of the tongue. *Mezer.* acts very well.

Paralysis of the Pharynx. *Baryt. Carb.*, *Mur. Ac.*, *Caust.*, *Con.*, *Ars.*, *Calc. Carb.*, *Hep. Sulph.*, *Iod.* This last is especially indicated when solids cannot be swallowed.

Polypus Nasi. 1. *Calc. Carb.*, *Con.*, *Phosph.* 2. *Aur.*, *Bell.*, *Graph.*, *Merc.*, *Nitr. Ac.*, *Silic.*, *Sulph.*, *Staph.*, *Teuc.*

Periosteum, diseases of. *Merc. Cor.*, *Phos. Ac.*, *Sabina*.

Petroleum is recommended for urethral contraction.

Variola. Von Bœnninghausen recommends *Thuja Occidentalis* as the specific against this disease. He gives it of the 200th, and eight days after the administration of a single dose not a trace of the disease remains. So sanguine is he in reference to its curative power, that he speaks confidently of its superseding vaccination! The announcement seems to have excited some attention on the part of Parisian homœopaths, as in subsequent numbers of the same Journal we find the experience referred to and confirmed by Drs. Croserio and Moroche. The experiment is easily made, and we should be happy to hear from any of our correspondents, whether they have been able to perceive that the ordinary course of smallpox has been at all affected by the administration of *Thuja*. The cases reported, which are very few, exceedingly meagre, and far from conclusive, were all treated with "Hochpotenzen," 200 and 300.—*N. A. Hom. Jour.*

THE HAHNEMANN SOCIETY.

Dr. Neidhard of Philadelphia, Pa., has sent us a copy of the Rules of the Hahnemann Society of London. The object of this society is "the publication and circulation, among medical men, of well-arranged practical Homœopathic Works." It is composed of medical men and others; the shares are £10 each; and the society to exist five years. The following address speaks for itself:

Address of the Hahnemann Publishing Society to the Homœopathists of America.

The Acting Committee of the Hahnemann Publishing Society beg to call the attention of their American Brethren to the establishment and objects of this Society. The object of this Society is, by the co-operation of a number of individuals, to procure the publication of Homœopathic works of practical value,

whose sale being probably limited to the members of the profession, would deter publishers from bringing them out at their own risk. The Society has already commenced the publication of a *Materia Medica and Repertory* on a more complete and extensive scale than has yet appeared in the English language. The first volume of the *Pathogenetic Cyclopædia* has been published, and the first part of the *Materia Medica* is now in the press. The Society has already a subscribed capital of nearly £600. It is proposed that the works published by the Society be issued to American subscribers on the same terms as to the members of the Society in this country, viz.: at prime cost. Dr. Neidhard of Philadelphia, and Dr. Henry Preston of Providence, have kindly consented to act as our Honorary Secretaries in the United States, and it is requested that those gentlemen who desire to become subscribers to the works of the Society will forward their names to them.

We regret to find that a reprint of one of the Society's works has been commenced in New-York, which will materially hamper the usefulness of the Society, and we therefore appeal to the scientific spirit and friendly feeling of the American Homœopathic practitioners to support us in our undertaking, by disowning reprints of the works, and we on our part pledge ourselves to afford all the support in our power to the sale of works published in America.

We shall also be happy to receive provings or other contributions to the *Materia Medica*. The manuscript to be sent to Dr. F. Black, Clifton, Bristol, or to our only accredited publishing Agent in America, Mr. Bailliere, Broadway, New-York.

F. BLACK. R. E. DUDGEON,
J. DRYSDALE, C. B. KER,
H. MADDEN,

Acting Committee of the Hahnemann Publishing Society.

We procured a copy of the *Pathogenetic Cyclopædia* a few weeks ago. It is got up in good style, and the work is almost indispensable to him who observes precision in the selection of remedies. We doubt if a Homœopathic physician could be found to regret a compliance with our advice to procure a copy of that work without delay. The reason we thus urge this matter upon our colleagues is, that the *Pathogenetic Cyclopædia* is of great value to the genuine practitioner of our art; and American physicians, in our opinion, should co-operate with their London colleagues in an undertaking which bids fair to promote the spread of the doctrine and practice of Homœopathy.

The 1st volume of the above work, which

is the only one yet published, contains 600 pages, large octavo, and can be obtained by remitting two dollars to Dr. Neidhard; which is beyond question the cheapest work of the kind which has yet appeared. We hope that each of the two thousand Homœopathic physicians of America will order a copy of the *Cyclopædia* without delay. This volume contains the symptoms relating to the disposition—symptoms relating to the mind—symptoms relating to the head.

The following may enable our readers to form some idea of the arrangement, precision and clearness of the volume under notice.

"CONGESTION OF THE HEAD."

"*Aloe*. Congestion in the head.

"*Ambra*. Rush of blood to the head for two days.

"*Angustura Spuria*. Congestion of the brain.

"*Antimonium Crudum*. Congestion of blood to the head diminished.

"*Argentum Nitricum*. Excessive rush of blood to the head, with throbbing in the arteries of the neck so that he must loosen his neck-cloth, at the same time heavy stupifying confusion of the head, great lowness of spirits, weakness of intellect, incapability of expressing himself correctly, or talking connectedly.

"*Asafætida*. Congestion of blood in the head with heat of the face."

And so on with all the drugs known to produce symptoms of congestion of the head.

[For the *American Journal of Homœopathy*.]

HOMŒOPATHY AND ITS OPPONENTS.

If any evidences were wanting that Homœopathy in its doctrines and practice was making a steady progress, and rapidly advancing in public favor, the testimony would be found in the fierce hostility it encounters in various quarters from the self-conceited "regular" gentlemen of the profession, who assume to be the exemplars of all that is decent and respectable in their language and conduct. Truths are very frequently formidable to oppose, from the very first moment of their promulgation, the more particularly so, if by their general acknowledgement and reception, a revolution will be effected in the popular mind, so universal and enduring, as to overthrow long established prejudices and modes of thinking. Nor is it to be for a moment forgotten, that should these truths be of a scientific character, "especial professors,"

and those who have made it the "business of their lives" to teach a contrary doctrine and practice, will savagely assail them, and enter their protest against all reformation.

The experience of centuries has demonstrated, that *new discoveries calculated to overthrow long existing errors*, almost universally regarded as incontrovertible *facts*, are never welcomely received. This is more decidedly manifest in the medical profession than in any other, though none are free from its absurd restraint. If Homœopathy in its most comprehensive sense, then, be a truth, a "fixed fact," beyond the reach of denial or the sometimes potent weapon of ridicule, why is it not admitted to be true? Why so cruelly belied? So contemptuously sneered at by the "*profession*," and *ignorantly* spoken of by the masses of the people? These questions are easily answered. One says, that "if the medical profession generally recognize the doctrine, I shall think there *is* something in it," and by such persons, a remark like *this*, is quite sufficient to justify a full dismissal of the subject. But what does it amount to? That which *never* yet has happened under *any* analogous circumstances, *cannot* happen in regard to Homœopathy; therefore, he who waits for physicians generally to regard the doctrine with favor, will wait in vain during *this* generation at all events. When was there ever a discovery made, or a truth proclaimed, involving the subjugation of established errors, which had not to struggle with obstinate opposition, aye, opposition and hostility from the very "*orthodox*" and "*regular*" professors and ministers of the system to which the novelty may have applied? Where is the recorded instance, showing that this opposition did not directly proceed from those very parties whose advocacy of Homœopathy is *demanded* by the public as an inducement to their conversion?

But can it be possible there is any truth in Homœopathy, as a theoretical or practical science, when we see it so hotly denounced by the majority of medical men? Can that be worth a moment's notice which has received the appellation of "*quackery*?" These are momentous questions, and involve consequences as serious as they are important, to the professed advocates of the Homeopathic practice, and the public or private recipients of its benefits or injuries.

Without intending to convey in so many words a stronger meaning than is attached to the declaration that "Homœopathy is quackery," we shall take the liberty of saying—that if it be *quackery*, Allopathy is murder. If our opponents are foolish enough to imagine the public *satisfied* with their declarations and opinions, we shall meet them on their own ground, and feel no delicacy in returning their compliments in matter and manner as they teach by precept and example. Arguments are sometimes classed among the impossibilities, they are not to be had, and therefore a resort to something else, some substitute of greater or less value, is frequently resorted to as the best that can be made use of under such pressing circumstances. Falsehood, misrepresentation, ridicule, misquotation and every other kind of trickery is unblushingly adopted by men who would feel themselves insulted were they charged with dishonest motives and acts, with the deliberate purpose of accomplishing their ends by foul and detestable means.

In the published transactions of the "Medical Society of the State of New York," during its annual session in February last, we find in the 6th article, a *reprint* of an address delivered before the Rensselaer County Medical Society, by Dr. Thomas W. Blatchford of Troy, on the 14th June, 1842, and by request repeated before a popular audience on the 18th of the same month. This address pleased the members of the Society so much, that they presented Dr. Blatchford their thanks for its *ingenuity*, and requested a copy for publication in the Transactions of the State Society, and asked his consent to its publication in the Troy papers. For want of something better, or to fill a void in the Transactions for 1851, his "*ingenious*" address is reprinted, by order of the Society, having previously made its appearance in the Transactions of 1843.

Conveniently forgetting all about *dates*, and with as much of the same kind of *ingenuity* as is displayed in the address itself, the Editor of the New York Medical Gazette comes forth in his number for May 15, with a string of "*citations*" from the "*second edition*" which "*has been just published*." It was not convenient for him to say that this second edition was dragged forth from the accumulated rubbish of eight years, to do what

it might against Homœopathy, in its occupancy of a place in the Transactions above alluded to. It had done no harm at the time of its delivery, nor can it do any now, but the use intended to be made of it is so apparent, and the cunning in issuing it as something new is so characteristic of the vain shifts and tricks of Allopathic editors and physicians, that we are tempted to give the "citations" of the Gazette and the "ingenious" address some notice.

For the gratification of his readers, the editor of the Gazette has made some extracts from a discourse by the Rev. Mr. Dole of Salem, on "The Claims of Medical Men." One of these reads thus—"If he has the *Magnanimity*, that will acknowledge the merits of rivalry, and the *Ingenuousness* and *Love of Truth* that will openly approve, and adopt a good idea, even from a quack," he (the physician) will bring those he serves under increased obligations to him. True, such a man would justly claim the esteem and gratitude of the community, because he merits it, and is above those mean and vulgar measures, which can only put forth a show of opposition and hostility to what it condemns, by a resort to *any* act calculated to conceal the truth.

We presume Dr. Reese to be somewhat tenacious of being thought an honorable man, and, that when he gives *extracts* from other men's writings, he does not *purposely omit or add* to their language. In July, 1842, the late Dr. J. B. Beck wrote to Dr. Blatchford, that—"In this city, (New York) I think Homœopathy is decidedly on the wane." Dr. Reese makes this extract from page 72 of the Transactions, but omits the words, "says Dr. Beck, July 29, 1842," so that the reader of the Gazette cannot but infer from what he sees there, that Dr. Beck wrote his opinion *recently*. If Homœopathy was "on the wane" in the city of New York in 1842, it ought to have nearly died out in nine years; we happen to know, however, that the number of its practitioners has *largely increased*, and, that it is gaining favor as rapidly as can be expected with all classes of the community.

The "testimony" of the late Dr. John Stearns was presented to Dr. Blatchford in August, 1842. At that time, and for aught we know, since, Dr. Stearns considered Ho-

mœopathy "to be the most *sublimated imposture* that has ever been registered in the annals of medicine." Dr. Reese gives *this* extract, and the seven subsequent lines, but omits *all* the rest of the letter. Why this omission? There were *reasons* for it; let us endeavor to supply them. Dr. Stearns admits the *successful practice* of Homœopathy, and for want of a better explanation, makes it "evidently depend on the negative character of the treatment." In other words, Homœopathy is *efficient* because there is no treatment at all, and because there is no *interference* with the efforts of nature. The disease being left to itself, becomes extinguished, it is *cured* by doing nothing. A very pleasant mode, certainly, but Dr. Stearns had no idea of the sequences of his own admissions. *Nothing* being done, *nature* becomes the physician, and heals herself. *She* does it; *not* the "infinitely small doses." We don't intend to quarrel about this "*vis medicatrix*," we admit its efficiency, yet Allopathy is more efficient because it is *all treatment*, and the *vis medicatrix* is decidedly "*interfered*" with. Here is a very unpleasant dilemma to be sure. Dr. Reese perceived it, ergo—he omitted *that* part of Dr. Stearns' "testimony." "How can any practitioner (asks Dr. Stearns) reconcile it to his conscience, wilfully to reject remedies and a course of treatment which he knows from daily experience will cure the disease, and substitute remedies, the effects of which are protracted and uncertain?" A very serious and important question, no doubt. The Homœopathic practitioner is not troubled in his conscience, and why should he be? He uses those remedies and adopts that course of treatment, which *he* knows from daily experience will cure the disease, and rejects those which that very same experience has taught *him* are "protracted and uncertain." He is aware that *his* remedies are in one breath, asserted to be "*powerless*," and in the next, "*protracted and uncertain in their effects*." Common sense cuts but a sorry figure in unravelling *this* mystery, common honesty admits it to be a very ridiculous piece of nonsense in the shape of an "*opinion*," put forth with gravity profound by the late Dr. Stearns. Truly these are not "the words of truth and soberness." It is really wonderful how *nature* cures when the patient is under Homœopathic treatment, and its *opponents* are to account

for its success. But this very all-powerful *nature* in the one case, is utterly unworthy of trust, when the same patient has to be treated Allopathically. Then there must be "*active, energetic*" drugs used, with "bleeding, blistering," and other adjuvants. Is the disease acute, and of a "highly inflammatory character?" It is, and the patient recovers *quickly* under the "infinitesimal" doses. The success depended on the "*negative*" treatment. Does he recover under the huge doses of Allopathy? Yes! and the success depends on the *positive* treatment. *Medicine* had nothing whatever to do with the happy issue brought about by the Homœopathic physician. It was powerless for any good. The "*vis medicatrix*" did it all, assisted by the *imagination*, the *regimen*, the *confidence* of the patient in a "*humbug*." But *medicine* has everything to do in a *similar* case under the care of the professor of "*orthodox*" physic. He does not trust to the "*power of nature*," nor to the *imagination*, to diet or *regimen*, but, with his "*active, energetic, and prompt*" treatment, which consists in "bleeding, mercury, cathartics, emetics, nauseants, cups, leeches, and blisters," he combats the same disease, (pneumonia we will say) that yielded so readily to the "*infinitesimal*" trifling of Homœopathy. In case after case of this very pneumonia or pleuritis, or tracheitis, or enteritis, the patients recover speedily and well, under the "*wanton experimenting*" of the Homœopathist, nor is he aware of any *greater* disposition on his part to set a "*low estimate* on human life," or "*to handle it as a plaything*," than is manifested by his calumniators under the same circumstances. It is "*presumption personified*," and gross defamation, thus to charge the "*handling of life as a plaything*," upon as honorable and respectable a body of men, as those who dare accuse them. The "*Scribes and Pharisees*" of Allopathy are not a jot more hypocritical than were their prototypes among the people of Ancient Israel.

KOPP.

New-York, May 30, 1851.

(*To be Continued.*)

vantage to be gained by persons placing themselves under such treatment. I should like if possible to be convinced, as many with whom I have spoken appear to be, of the superiority of this system to that generally adopted. Is there any certain principle upon which the system is founded? What is the meaning of the word Homœopathy? for, to tell the truth, I know very little about the matter.

B. Homœopathy is a compound of two Greek words, and signifies similar affection, as Allopathy signifies another affection; and Antipathy a contrary affection; but to explain it still more clearly, you know, I suppose, that all medicines possess in a greater or less degree, the property of disturbing the healthy functions of the body, and producing disease; now, if a medicine be administered with the view of producing a disease the contrary to that with which the patient is afflicted, it would be the Antipathic mode; if the medicine administered be designed to produce a disease different, but not necessarily contrary to that under which the patient labors, it would be the Allopathic mode; but if the medicine administered be intended to produce a similar disease to that under which the patient suffers, then it would be the Homœopathic mode; and all Homœopathists contend that this is the only safe and effectual method of treating disease; that it is founded upon a law of nature—that the cure of any disease must be effected by administering such remedies, which, if given for some time to persons in health, would produce symptoms analogous to the disease itself. The great doctrine is simply expressed in the Latin phrase, "*Similia similibus curantur*," which is often translated, "*like cures like*;" but the English phrase, "*Medicines tend to cure diseases similar to those they tend to produce*," gives a far more correct notion of the system.

A. Such a doctrine appears rather strange. You say it is a law of nature; by whom was it discovered?

B. A book ascribed to Hippocrates, states—"By agencies producing effects similar to the symptoms of the disease must it be treated, and not by contraries." Stahl is quoted to this effect—"The received method of treating diseases *contraria contrariis*, is completely false and absurd, that diseases are subdued by remedies producing a similar affection, *similia similibus*—as frost bite by snow or ice-water." Paracelsus, Haller, and others, lay down the same law. But the merit of promulgating this law and making it of universal application is due to Samuel Hahnemann,* a native of Saxony, educated for the medical profession. The uncertainty that prevailed in the treatment of disease, and the great doubts that hung over the practice of medicine gene-

FAMILIAR EXPLANATIONS, ETC.

A. For some time past I have been frequently thinking, whether there is any truth in the new system of medicine called Homœopathy, and whether there is any particular ad-

* Samuel Hahnemann died in his eighty-ninth year, at his residence in Paris, on Sunday morning, July 2d, 1843.

rally, induced him, as it had many other conscientious men, to forego all practice and devote himself to chemical pursuits; but his children being attacked with a dangerous illness, his attention was earnestly directed to ascertain if anything certain could be discovered in the healing art. At length, as he states, while engaged in translating a medical work of Cullen, he was so struck with the obscure and discordant statements respecting the properties of Peruvian Bark, that he resolved to try what would be the effect upon himself; and he was very much surprised to find that it produced those symptoms which accompany that kind of intermittent fever which Peruvian Bark is known to cure. He repeated the experiment upon himself, and induced many of his friends to submit to the same experiments;—the results were always alike. Conceiving that the circumstance was not merely accidental, or confined to Peruvian Bark, he commenced experimenting with other medicinal substances, and after years of patient and persevering labor, was confirmed in his opinions, and published the facts to the world.

A. Can you make this a little more clear by a few illustrations?

B. Many examples might be given illustrative of the Homœopathic Law, not merely from the writings of Homœopathists themselves, but from the evidence of physicians, who are either opposed to Homœopathy, or who had no suspicion that the facts they stated had any relation to a natural law. Mercury, if large quantities be introduced into the system, accidentally or otherwise, will produce dysentery, ulceration of the intestines, boils, jaundice, liver complaint; and yet we have the testimony of physicians of the highest repute, that these disorders are to be successfully treated by a judicious employment of mercury. Again, Dr. Paris says, "that in the neighborhood of the copper smelting works of Cornwall and Wales, he has seen cows suffering from cancerous affection, in consequence of the arsenical fumes arising from the smelting works;" and Dr. Rush says, "I believe arsenic to be the most efficacious remedy that has ever been used for cancerous affections." Orfila states, "that cantharides excites the most violent inflammation in every texture of the body with which it comes in contact;" and from the testimony of other medical men, we learn, that cantharides is capable of curing inflammation of certain descriptions. Sulphur has been extensively and successfully employed in many cutaneous affections; but the power of sulphur to excite eruption of the skin similar to itch, &c., can be doubted by no one who has visited the sulphur baths in Germany, where the "bath rash" is one of the most constant effects experienced by those who drink the water; and it is said, that sulphurous baths often produce the very diseases which they are employed to cure. It will be admitted as a familiar fact,

that the use of strong tea produces, especially in individuals not accustomed to it, a train of nervous symptoms, such as wakefulness, great irritability, palpitations of the heart, anxiety, &c.; and Dr. Copeland says—"In the summer of 1826, I was requested by a practitioner to see the daughter of a clergyman residing in Westminster, laboring under most violent nervous palpitation, which had resisted the means advised by several physicians who had been consulted. She was thin, delicate, and highly nervous. Finding that the remedies usually prescribed in such cases had been employed without affording relief, I suggested that a strong infusion of green tea should be given three or four times a day, and continued for a few days; relief speedily followed, and in two or three days complete recovery." Vaccination is another instance of the Homœopathic Law, and the best proof of its efficacy in the prevention of smallpox, is the universal acknowledgment of it by people of all countries; and the experiments of physicians of late years have proved, that the cow-pox, and smallpox, if not the same disease, at least exhibit similar symptoms. Upon these facts, and many more of a similar character, most medical men are agreed; and the doctrine of Homœopathy is, that a medicine that possesses the power of effectually curing disease, does so only on account of the property it possesses of creating analogous symptoms in a healthy individual; hence we find Hahnemann recommending and prescribing for diseases those medicines only, which, having been tested on persons in health, manifest symptoms most closely resembling those under which a patient is suffering.

(*To be Continued.*)

HAHNEMANN ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.

REGULAR MEETING.

Wednesday Evening, June 4th, 1851.

SCIENTIFIC CONVERSATIONS.

The Vice President, Doctor Curtis, opened the conversations by reading some notes on the employment of Bromine in an affection resembling croup which had occurred in a Mocking bird, and observed that he thought its success in croup had not been sufficiently tested. In the course of the informal conversation which followed the reading of this paper, Dr. Kinsley stated that he had used the Bromine in only one case of croup. He had given it after all the other remedies had failed and had derived, he was sorry to say, no benefit

from its employment. Doctor Guy, of Brooklyn, stated that Dr. Wells and himself had treated, some time since, a case of croup and employed the Bromine with the happiest results after all the usual remedies had failed. A profuse discharge of thin mucus, he remarked, accompanied the cough and constituted the distinguishing feature of the case. This symptom had induced the employment of the Bromine, and he thought it would prove successful in all similar cases.

Doctor Kirby called the attention of the Academy to a singular circumstance which had just occurred in connection with the Hydropathic treatment, and which afforded additional testimony of the truth of the opinion that medical agents may remain for a long time latent in the human body, veiling their peculiar and active symptoms under the slow and tedious forms of chronic disease, and continue in this state until the vital forces have obtained sufficient energy to effect their expulsion. A person who had taken, some years ago, large quantities of Nitrate of Silver and labored ever since under chronic difficulties, resorted, recently, to the water cure for relief. The treatment, said Dr. K., had a singular effect, for, as the patient grew better, the skin, which was previously fair and free from stain, became discolored,* ex-

hibiting the peculiar and unmistakable evidences of poisoning by Nitrate of Silver. The case is interesting, continued Dr. K., as it shows that medicines, in allopathic doses, are not only injurious on account of their immediate effects, but even more dangerous on account of the continued and chronic ailments their presence in the system is perpetually giving rise to. In their general features—in their tendency to become suppressed and reappear again under a more favorable condition of the vital forces, the medicinal and morbid miasms, Dr. K. observed, strongly resembled each other, and there was one fact connected with their re-development which was deserving of notice—it was that on the re-appearance of these affections, the symptoms seemed always to recur in a sort of inverse order, the disease travelling back, as it were, through all its morbid stages. He had noticed this, recently, in a case of chronic disease, treated by him. The patient complained, soon after taking the medicines, of pains in the limbs, and remarked one day that they resembled, very much, the symptoms he had felt during an attack of fever and ague several years previously. On continuing the remedies, observed Dr. K., the pains became worse, and at length, much to his surprise, the patient was favored with a return of his chills and fever in all their original intensity. The matter was soon explained, however. On inquiry he found that the patient had suppressed the disease by taking large doses of quinine, and thus given rise to the chronic condition under which he was suffering. In cases of this description, continued Dr. K., the medical and morbid miasms seem to become blended as it were, and exhibit symptoms of a compound character. He was aware that in this tendency of miasms, of a similar nature, to unite with each other, no new idea was presented to the homeopathist, as our records were filled with cases of the kind, but in a posological point of view, he thought the fact important and deserving of consideration.

Dr. Curtis observed that Hahnemann had noticed the fact referred to by Dr. Kirby, respecting the order in which the symptoms of chronic disease recurred when the latter were re-developed, and said that he had made it a matter of special comment.

Dr. Donovan observed that he was treating a case of intermittent which had been suppressed about a year since by quinine or some

* A paper published by Dr. Russell in the last number of the British Journal of Homeopathy, contains a communication from Dr. Gully, the distinguished English Hydropathist, detailing a case very similar to the above—a patient laboring under a specific difficulty was dosed by his physician with enormous quantities of mercury, his object being, as he said, to make his mouth sore. As this could not be effected, the patient finding himself better, withdrew from the treatment. Ten years afterwards he applied to Dr. Gully, for the relief of some chronic ailments under which he had labored from the time of the above treatment. The effect of the water cure was at first to improve his appetite and general health. This was followed by an eruption of Mercurial Rupia on the skin. The gums next became inflamed, the teeth loosened, and profuse Ptyalism set in attended by the peculiar fetor of mercury. These symptoms were followed by profuse night sweats which *blackened silver*, this last test establishing the nature of the poison beyond the possibility of doubt. It is difficult to understand how such a noxious agent could have remained in the human body for ten years circulating with its fluids and mingling with its tissues. Yet such is the fact, and we can only account for it by supposing that this remedy possesses, in a higher degree than others, the power of paralysing the vital energies and preventing reaction. The recent chemical investigations of Miahle and others, show that mercury becomes soluble when received into the stomach, and in this state enters the circulation—forming such an intimate combination with the organic matter of the blood that none of the ordinary chemical re-agents have the power of decomposing it, and from which it can only be separated, according to Pereira, by destructive distillation. Vid. British and Foreign Med. Chir. Review, for July, 1849.

other febrifuge. The patient had been ever since in miserable health, had suffered from time to time from slight returns of the chills, and a few days since, after experiencing some mental emotion, had a recurrence of the attack. He had given Ignatia on account of the moral condition of the patient, and the extreme thirst accompanying the chill, but the remedy, instead of relieving, had only seemed to develop the disease more fully, as it had now returned in all its original intensity. The Ignatia did not meet, he said, all the symptoms, there being thirst during the hot as well as the cold stage, and he had determined on giving the Capsicum, which seemed to correspond better with the case. He had never used the remedy, however, in intermittents, and could only infer from its pathogenesis, that it was applicable to such symptoms as he had detailed.

Dr. Guy, stated that he had treated a case of Tertian ague, recently, with Capsicum. The patient complained of pain in the head, and of thirst during the chill and fever. The Capsicum was given, at first, in a low potency, and the disease, after two or three slight returns of the chill, disappeared, but returned again in full force on the 14th day. Capsicum of the 30th was then administered during the apyrexia, and the disease, after a return of the chill on the regular day, disappeared.

Dr. Metcalf observed that he thought the recurrence of the affection on the 14th day could not be attributed to the remedy which had been given, as this class of diseases had a peculiar tendency to return at such intervals. Dr. Guernsey expressed the same opinion, and remarked that in three cases, recently, under his care, he had particularly noticed this return of the affection after an interval of 14 days.

Dr. Donovan observed that there was one remedy for intermittents, to which he would call the attention of the Academy. It was the Daphne Mezereum. He attended, some months ago, a lady for an attack of intermittent of a quotidian type, characterised by violent chills, with intense thirst during the chill, the thirst being increased by drinking. There was little or no febrile reaction following the chill, but the patient complained of pain and tenderness in the lumbar region and of violent colic and splenetic stitches. She was suffering from Leucorrhœa also, and in the right

inguinal region there was a spot exhibiting considerable tenderness to pressure. The case was one evidently dependent on ovarian irritation, the moral condition of the patient, who was of a fretful, irritable mood, starting at the least noise, also indicating the ovaries as the seat of the affection, the disease being, in fact, a Hysteria masked by the forms of intermittent fever, rather than an attack of *bona fide* ague. Intermittents of this kind, dependent on reflex irritation, were, he believed, extremely unmanageable, unless the seat of the irritation could be discovered so as to get a perfect expression of the disease. In this case, luckily, the group of symptoms was complete, the pain and tenderness in the lumbar and inguinal regions, pointing out the seat of the affection. Ignatia, Cocculus and one or two other medicines were given, but none of the ordinary remedies seemed to meet the symptoms, and after a careful examination of the Materia Medica, the Mezereum was selected as the remedy best adopted to the case. Its pathogenesis corresponded admirably with the symptoms of the disease, and it succeeded as he had anticipated in arresting it. The Mezereum, however, did not check entirely the leucorrhœa, or remove altogether the ovarian irritation, its action being limited apparently to the sympathetic affections depending on these troubles. To remove those local difficulties the Staphysagria, Conium, and Calcarea were given, under the use of which the patient soon recovered.

Dr. Kinsky said that the remarks on the employment of Capsicum reminded him of a case of sore throat, in which he had recently employed this remedy. The patient described the pain as of a burning, stinging character, and said it felt as if she had been swallowing Cayenne pepper. Taking advantage of the hint, Capsicum was administered, and the affection of the throat disappeared.

Dr. Metcalf remarked that another remedy, the Mansanello, was peculiarly applicable to cases of this character. It produced, he continued, like the Capsicum, a kind of stinging, smarting, extending from the pharynx to the œsophagus, which did not seem as in other agents to be produced by the mere local action of the drug, but appeared to be a purely dynamic effect. The Mansanello, Dr. M. further remarked, was likely to prove of use in bowel complaints, as diarrhoea of an extremely vio-

lent and long continued character was among its most prominent symptoms.

Dr. Cox referred to two cases of nocturnal enuresis he had recently cured by giving the Benzoic Acid. One of the patients was a girl of 9 years of age, the other a young lady of 18. The medicine was employed in the 1st trituration, and was taken morning and evening. "The cases were interesting," Dr. C. continued, "as the difficulty had existed for some time, and had resisted all the usual remedies. In the girl," he observed, "there had been for a short time a slight return of the affection, but on administering the Acid again, it was promptly and permanently subdued."

Dr. Metcalf remarked, "That it would have been well had the character of the urine been observed in these cases. The Benzoic Acid was remarkable," he said, "for its giving a jumentous* odor to this secretion; and it would have been interesting to know whether its curative action was limited or not to cases having this peculiar symptom."

Dr. Guy mentioned a case of enteritis occurring in a child, complicated, as he thought, with intersusception of a portion of intestine. The child, when he first saw it, was constantly retching, and seemed to be in extreme pain. He prescribed Ipecac., but this doing no good, he was sent for, and on seeing the child again, found it in a state of extreme prostration, and the vomiting of a stercoraceous character. Opium was given, and repeated in half an hour, but finding it of little benefit recourse was had to the 4th of Plumbum. This was perfectly successful; the vomiting and other symptoms disappearing after the second dose of the remedy.

Dr. Curtis remarked, "That he had employed the Plumbum in a similar case some years since, and with like success. The case was attended," he said, "by stercoraceous vomiting, which ceased immediately after the administration of the medicine. He had employed the Acetas Plumbi in this case, and had used it in its ordinary form."

Dr. Cox then related to the Academy two cases of inguinal hernia he had prescribed for within a short time, in both of which the homeopathic remedies had been perfectly suc-

cessful. Nux. and Veratrum, of the 3d trituration, given every half hour, were the remedies employed, and under their use the protrusion had entirely disappeared, without the taxis being resorted to. "The case of the adult was interesting," he said, "as the hernia had existed for some time, and was much swollen; the family having made several unsuccessful attempts to reduce it. Stercoraceous vomiting, extreme prostration, and other symptoms indicating strangulation of the intestine were present," he said, "and so hopeless did he consider the case, that he proposed an operation as offering the only chance of escape. The remedies were resorted to, however, and after using the Nux. with little or no effect, resort was had to Aconite and Veratrum, under the use of which, the patient grew rapidly better, and he was surprised on visiting him in the morning to find the hernia had entirely disappeared."

The conversations were then closed, and the Academy adjourned.

T. W. DONOVAN, M. D.

Clinical Reporter.

A CASE.

Read before the Hahnemann Academy of Medicine, at its meeting in June, 1851, by J. T. CURTIS, M. D., of New-York.

While prescribing last winter for a member of a family, in which I have long been medical adviser, I was requested by the mistress of the house to suggest something which might be of use to a favorite mocking bird, which had for several months suffered from a cough, since the advent of which he had drooped and lost his musical ardor. During this time he sometimes moped the greater part of the day, incessantly opening his bill, apparently breathing with difficulty and giving vent to a short sound like sneezing. A bird fancier who was consulted on the occasion diagnosed the malady as a cough, and recommended liquorice water as a drink, which was tried without any appreciable effect. On reviewing the case of the little feathered patient, I remembered that the trials of Bromine upon which we predicate its application in Trachetis and Croup were made upon pigeons, and I was struck by its

* Like that of a working horse.

adaptation to this instance, the interest of which grows out of the fact, that the pathogenesis of the remedy was made on birds. In Noack and Trinks, under the head of the Path. Anat. of Bromine, we find in the trial on doves, "Inflammation of the larynx, trachea and ramifications, marked by slight reddish stripes, and by a dull red color, especially about the glottis;" again, "Severe inflammation of the larynx and trachea, with exudation of plastic lymph, almost blocking up the tubes." Not having a preparation of this remedy at hand, I prescribed *Hepar Sulph.* as a substitute, but, as I learned a short time after, without success. I then advised *Bromine* 6th, a few pellets to be put daily in the drink. The result was a speedy cure, which the duration of the malady and its resistance to mild weather during last summer leaves fairly attributable to Bromine.

The above facts in the symptomatology of Bromine point forcibly to its use in genuine Croup, and I ought, perhaps, not to omit the passing remark, that in my experience it approaches more nearly the rank of a specific, in this deadly malady, than any other drug in our *Materia Medica*.

Those who would be M. D.'s, ought to be the last persons to speak of "ignorant outsiders."

Homœopathy is rapidly gaining friends in this city, as indeed it is wherever truly practiced.

Yours truly,
D. L. STEWART, M. D.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENT.

The supervisors of Albany County, N. Y., have appointed Dr. B. Springsteen, a member of the American Institute of Homœopathy, the county physician. The period is near at hand when Homœopaths will be sought for to supply the medical departments of the public institutions of this country. We are not at all surprised at the above appointment, because the mortality in the Albany County Alms House, by Allopathic treatment, should have moved the supervisors long ago to the protection of the sick poor against Allopathic medication, which is known to be very pernicious. The course of Allopaths towards Homœopaths is unwise, and it is remarkable they do not see it. The daily disclosure to the public mind of a disposition in our opponents to stain the character and lessen the reputation of Homœopathic practitioners, and the designed misrepresentation of Homœopathy itself, which, taken in connection with the notoriously unsuccessful treatment of diseases Allopathically, rapidly tends to the overthrow of the Allopathic school in this country. Was it not that that school is "stone blind;" "deaf as an adder and conscience hardened" as with an hot iron, it would perceive its low, pitiable and contemptible state. There are destructive elements at work in its own vitals, yet like a consumptive, with a hoarse, hollow, weak and death-reminding voice, it pretends to be improving, although it is known to everybody, that its end is rapidly approaching. Such is the position of things at the present moment, that it is impossible to save the Allopathic school, however great the effort so to do. Every movement that school makes in its members individually, in its sectional societies, whether secret or open, in its county and state societies, in its colleges, academies and conventions, gives a fresh impetus to the spread of Homœopathy.

[For the American Journal of Homœopathy.]

New Albany, Ind., June 3d, 1851.

DR. KIRBY,

DEAR SIR: In the June number of your interesting Journal, I noticed a communication purporting to be from Thomas J. Griffith, stating, "that the attempt to teach Homœopathy in an Allopathic College in Louisville, Ky., ended in an utter failure, &c.

Permit me to correct that statement. The attempt to teach Homœopathy in an Allopathic College in Louisville, Ky., has *never been made*.

Again, I wish it distinctly understood, that I had no part or lot in the meeting, (if there was one) got up to do Prof. J. Gilman *honor*.

I did not even know anything about it, until I saw the proceedings as published in your paper with my name as one of the committee. I thank the gentlemen for the *honor* intended me, but would be still more obliged if they would, hereafter, consult me when they wish to use my name in any of their mummery.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HOMEOPATHY.

The session of the Institute, for 1851, was held in New Haven, Ct. Dr. Wm. E. Payne, of Bath, Me., was elected President. Dr. Swazey, of Springfield, Mass., General Secretary. Dr. Charles Foote, of New Haven, Ct., Assistant Secretary, and Dr. S. R. Kirby, of New-York City, Treasurer.

Dr. Swazey delivered an interesting discourse to a large and intelligent audience on life, disease, and the law of cure.

The business of the Institute was conducted with harmony, and the progress of Homœopathy is cheering to her friends.

The proceedings will be published soon, when our readers may expect a more extended notice of the late session, which closed on the 12th ult.

The next meeting will be held on the 3d Wednesday of May, 1852, in the City of Baltimore, Md. Dr. S. R. Kirby was appointed to deliver the Annual Address.

HOMŒOPATHIC PHYSICIANS.

A Homœopathic Physician, desirous of living in a country town, with a population of 15,000 inhabitants, distant one hour's ride to the City of New-York, on the railroad, may hear of such a situation by application to Dr. KIRBY.

June 6, 1851.

The article "Abuse of Cold Water," in the June Number, should have been credited to the N. A. Jour. of Homœopathy.

NEW PROPOSITION.

As we desire to extend the circulation of this Journal as far as possible, we have concluded to make the following proposition to physicians and the friends of Homœopathy, which we hope will be responded to without delay, viz.:—We will send eight copies to one Post office for five dollars (\$5); twenty copies for ten dollars (\$10); fifty copies for twenty dollars (\$20), cash in advance.

Volumes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of this Journal may be had, at \$1 00 each, of Messrs. Rademacher & Sheek, Philadelphia; Otis Clapp, Boston; and of the Editor, 762 Broadway, New-York.

J. F. DESILVER, 112 Main Street, Cincinnati, is an agent for this Journal.

Subscribers in Philadelphia, Pa., may receive this Journal regularly through RADEMACHER & SHEEK, 239 Arch Street.

DOMESTIC HOMEOPATHY.

Just published: DR. C. HERING'S DOMESTIC PHYSICIAN, revised, with additions, from the author's manuscript of the *Seventh German* edition. Containing, also, a Tabular Index of the medicines, and the diseases in which they are used. *Fifth American Edition.* 515 pp. 8vo. Price \$2. Published by RADEMACHER & SHEEK, and for sale by Wm. Radde, 322 Broadway, New-York. Otis Clapp, 23 School-st., Boston. N. C. Peabody, 13 West-st., Boston. J. G. Wesselhaft, 64 North 4th-st., St. Louis. J. G. Bachofen, Pittsburgh. J. F. Desilver, Cincinnati. H. Hupfeld, 274 Market-st., Baltimore. W. H. Fox, Natchez.

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Homœopathic Medical College OF PENNSYLVANIA, Located in Filbert Street, above Eleventh, PHILADELPHIA.

The Lectures of the regular course will commence annually on the first Monday of November, and continue until the first of March ensuing.

Preliminary Lectures will be delivered in the College from the first Monday of October until the commencement of the regular course.

Amount of fees for a full course of Lectures,	\$100 00
Students who have attended two full courses in other schools,	30 00
Matriculation fee, paid only once	5 00
Practical Anatomy,	10 00
Graduation fee,	30 00

The Commencement will take place early in March.

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THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."

VOL. 6.

NEW-YORK, AUGUST, 1851.

NO. 4.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

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This JOURNAL will be issued on the first of each month, at ONE DOLLAR a year in advance. City subscribers will be regularly served at their residences by sending their names to 762 Broadway.

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American Journal of Homœopathy.

NEW-YORK, AUGUST, 1851.

LECTURE ON HOMŒOPATHY.

BY DR. SCOTT, OF GLASGOW.

(Continued from page 35.)

11. Granting that some relation exists, in what does it consist? Is it that of similitude or of contrast? We conceive it to be that of similitude, for the following reasons:

1st. The laws of the animal economy differ from those of brute matter, in this respect, that living organized beings are not merely passive to the influence of external objects, but they manifest a power of re-action, tending to establish the contrary of the action to which they have been subjected. "The living human body, indeed, experiences in the first moment some change, in consequence of the action which physical force exercises upon it, but this change is not durable, as in organic bodies, and as it must be, in order that a medicine acting inversely to the malady should produce a permanent effect,—very far from that; the living human organism tends to determine by opposition the precise contrary of the affection which it has received from without."

Now if, as we believe, this principle be a law of nature, it seems to follow that a medicine acting in a manner opposed to the symptoms of the malady should ameliorate only for a short time the existing morbid symptoms, and should speedily be forced to yield to the power of re-action which excites the contrary state, *i. e.*, an increase of the original malady.

2d. There remains then the law of similitude; a law founded on that principle of re-action which forbids the adoption of the contrary method, *i. e.*, the tendency to establish a state opposite to that induced by an external power acting on the living organism.

That such a law exists, innumerable instances evince. Thus it is well known that the application of heat to a frozen limb is attended with the greatest danger, while the evil is removed by the use of snow. Cold water will afford temporary relief to a scalded limb, but heating substances are more permanently beneficial. Various instances might be adduced, but we think it better to reserve them for the general head of cases corroborative of the general law, and in the meanwhile to refer to a small tract of Dr. Hahnemann, entitled the "Spirit of the Homœopathic Doctrine," and a letter from Hahnemann to Hufeland, which, with the Organon, seem to be the most suitable works hitherto published for diffusing a correct and authentic knowledge of Homœopathy. But there is yet another light in which the matter may be viewed.

The human frame cannot be the prey of two distinct diseases occupying the same organ at the same time, or, as expressed by John Hunter, "no two actions can take place in the same constitution or in the same part at the same time." Of this see examples in the Organon, 33, 38, 42. Now the human organism is more susceptible of the influence of medicinal substances than it is of disease, *i. e.*, the medicinal substance is a more powerful agent than the original morbid power; hence it follows, that if a suitable medicine can be directed to the very organ or tissue that is diseased, its power being greater than the disease, it will supplant it, and its own influence being transient, the medicinal malady will soon pass away, leaving the constitution whole: of this we have

many proofs. "Every hour a crowd of circumstances act upon us, calculated to excite disease, without the power of disturbing our equilibrium. The activity of the conservative vital energy within us commonly resists the greater number of these circumstances. It is only when they are arrived at a high degree of intensity, and we too freely expose ourselves to them, that we become ill But it is quite different with artificial dynamic powers which we call medicines. In fact, every medicine acts at all times, in all circumstances, upon all living bodies, and excites in them peculiar symptoms, so that every living human organism must be apprehended by and in some sort affected with the medicinal malady," etc. (Spirit of Homœopathic Doctrine.) In this view, the human organism is regarded as one and indivisible, and every disease is considered as a modification of the one and indivisible principle or vital power, though the results of such modification may appear in various parts of the body.—Now if this be so, it is plain, that what is one and indivisible cannot be in two different states at the same time: if, therefore, a given morbid state can be supplanted by another, the original one will cease. But is it sufficient to be supplanted by another of any nature indifferently? No; for if so, the first medicine that came to hand would cure the disease; there must be some definite relation between the disease and the effects of the medicine, that relation we conceive to be similitude.—The medicinal action taking its position in the living organism, it must be of such a character as to send out its influence precisely over those departments of the body which are affected by the disease. Now if the various tissues and organs of the body affected by the medicine be the same as those affected by the disease, it seems that of necessity the symptoms should be similar, for any appreciable symptom is the result of a recondite and inappreciable influence over that organ, or tissue, or system which presents the symptom, and which, traced back to its origin, the vital power or living organism, will require that this be not only affected, but similarly affected. Indeed it is not easy to say what is meant by a symptom being contrary to another. What eruption is contrary to a pustule? What condition is contrary to headache? Surely none but the absence of headache. But the direct and immediate effect of no medicine on the healthy body can strictly be called the absence of disease, for the substance which leaves the healthy body in health is inert, and therefore no medicine.—Such may be regarded as a very brief and imperfect view of the physiological and pathological theory of Homœopathy. I am content that it should be brief and imperfect, because I am anxious that all who are in any way interested in the subject should seek their satisfaction in the works of Dr. Hahnemann, particularly in the Organon, and "The Spi-

rit of the Homœopathic Doctrine," and should feel a certain amount of dissatisfaction in writings of less authority.

Of the instances of the application of the law we may give the following very limited selection. We anticipate and guard against smallpox by vaccination, the effects of which so closely resemble it in its leading features, as by some to be considered the same disease. The effects of *Mercury* are well known to resemble very closely the symptoms of the disease to which it is regarded as specific.—"Electricity is especially called for in asphyxy produced by lightning." (Good's Study of Medicine.) "*Mercury* appears to have a specific influence on the variolous matter . . . Peculiar to confluent smallpox is salivation." (Idem.) "In small doses, bitter almonds sometimes act as irritants, and occasion nausea, vomiting and purging; occasionally, also, an eruption somewhat like urticaria. In large doses, the effects are precisely similar to those of hydrocyanic acid." (Pereira.) "No remedy is so well adapted as hydrocyanic acid as an adjunct to tonics for removing those dyspeptic affections which are attended with acidity of the stomach, etc. As a local remedy, it is the only application which can be depended on for allaying the itching and tingling so distressing in impetiginous affections." (Thomson's London Dispensatory.) "We see the biliary secretions corrected by a few grains of the *Pil. hydr.* . . . In large doses, it never fails to disorder the digestive organs. Persons who are salivated have the functions of the liver constantly disturbed by the process . . . I cannot but think it wrong to use *Mercury* in hepatic affections to that extent which would disorder the functions of the liver, if they were previously healthy." (Abernethy.) "Headaches are common at Rome, and among strangers I found them of very frequent occurrence. On the other hand, I met with several instances of habitual headache in young persons disappearing during a residence there." (Clark on Climate.) "The English sweating sickness was first subdued by sudorifics."

"A strong infusion of tea produces anxiety and palpitation of the heart in persons not in the habit of drinking it; if taken in small doses, it is an excellent remedy against such symptoms." "Lethargic fevers have been cured with *Opium*, likewise constipation." A limb recently frozen should be rubbed with snow, and burns are most effectually cured by hot or stimulating applications." (Hahnemann's Organon.)

To these very many more might be added, but I prefer referring to the introduction to the Organon and to various subsequent publications for instances; I may mention, in particular, a few recent numbers of the *Homœopathic Times*, containing some interesting papers by my friend Dr. Beilby, which show the successful though often unconscious application of the homœopathic law beyond

the avowed precincts of the homeopathic school.

But we shall fall very far short of the truth, if we restrict the application of this law to the employment of medicinal substances, or if we look for corroboration of it only in this quarter. Being, as I believe, a law of Nature, whose laws ever tend to unity, I think it will be found to regulate every remedial operation, *i. e.*, whatever evil we would correct, physical, intellectual, moral, or political, it must still be by the application of this principle *similia similibus curantur*, or, according to another mode of expression, by addressing our remedies to the principle of *re-action*, not that of *passive impressibility*. "As vinegar upon *Nitre* (*Natrum*), so is he that singeth songs to a heavy heart." The man that would assuage grief by mirth or levity, would show not his want of sympathy, but his ignorance of the human heart. The common practice of recounting to the distressed instances of still greater distress, is not founded on the supposition that we take a malicious pleasure in the calamity of others, and thus become reconciled to our own, its real curative power lies in its presenting objects calculated to distress a mind not previously in sorrow; and I believe it will be found that those are most diverted from the sense and contemplation of their own grief by this method who are naturally most disposed to sympathise with others. It is true that vulgar and unfeeling minds may apply this law in the spirit of selfishness, but this is an ignorant perversion of the law in the mind of the *consoler*; yet it will not fail to have its effect on the mind of the *patient*, just as the ignorant or casual application of a truly homeopathic remedy will not be impeded by the want of science in its selection. Neither should the religious teacher meet the ambition and worldliness of men by a taunting reiteration of the certainty of death, and the insufficiency of earthly enjoyments: he should meet the natural instincts and appetites of men not by any effort at extinction, but by the exhibition of higher and worthier objects, to a certain degreee of an analogous character. The various forms in which vice presents itself, are the morbid actions of natural moral functions. These natural functions must not be destroyed, their demands must be met: and history points out but too plainly how the struggle to "mortify" or put to death the natural passions has led to the worst exhibitions of their fatal malignity. The safeguard against the *unlawful* is the allowance of the *lawful*, though possibly a higher and purer condition would relinquish even the lawful. Often, I doubt not, have the sincere but feeble aspirations after intellectual and moral renovation been stifled in the breast of the conscious delinquent, by the stern, unbending, unsympathising demands, and the harsh and violent remedies of the zealous but inexpert physician of the mind.—And he should prove himself a sorry states-

man, who could invent no better method of allaying a rebellious and democratic spirit than the brute force of absolute despotism; a wiser he who should open up appropriate channels for the legitimate exercise of those faculties whose perverted exercise or exaggerated demands have called for his interference.—And we of Britain surely know well, and ought highly to appreciate, the power of re-action, who owe our Magna Charta to the strong recoil of Britain's aristocracy against the baseness and servility of a tyrant; and our Bill of Rights to the strong recoil of Britain's Commons against the untimely and exaggerated claims of one who had not well marked the hour of the day; and our well-built Protestant constitution, (while we had it,) to the strong recoil of Britain's millions against the efforts of a misguided though conscientious prince to restore a yoke which their fathers had shaken off. And if we extend our thoughts beyond man and his varied sorrows, still in its appropriate phases shall we find the same law in operation, call we it the law of similitudes, of specifics, of re-action, or of polarity, or assign we to it any other formula of expression. In electricity we find the same power developing opposite phenomena; in gravitation we find the law of attraction overcome by approximation; the law of repulsion overcome by distance. The mind, awake to considerations of this kind, will find instances in every quarter, and it is to awaken the mind to such considerations that I thus hastily mention these various particulars. These are not fanciful analogies, they are not *analogies* at all; they are real *instances* of the universal law—instances requisite to substantiate the claim of its being a law of Nature. We shall no more attain an adequate impression of this law by regarding it merely in relation to the sick body, than we shall attain an adequate impression of the law of gravitation, by considering it merely as exhibited in the material objects on the earth's surface. These may be the cases in which we are ourselves principally concerned, but if we confine our attention to them, we shall never rise to those elevated conceptions which are inseparably connected with the discovery of every UNIVERSAL LAW.

HOMOEOPATHY AND ITS OPPONENTS.

(Continued from page 42.)

Were it possible for the "learned and able" editor of the *Gazette* to kill Homœopathy by his "cunningly devised fables," or the exercise of his peculiar tact in misrepresentation, success would have attended his efforts long ago. In the *manufacture* of testimony against its pretensions and claims, he is indeed able enough, and quite as unscrupulous as his warmest admirers could wish.

We have alluded to the "testimony" of Drs. Beck and Stearns, as quoted in the *Gazette*, and the reader will not fail to perceive the design of Dr. Reese, from the extracts of the letters addressed to Dr. Blatchford, *in the year 1842*, by Drs. Bliss, Gilbert Smith, Isaac Wood, J. McNaughton, J. C. Warren, O. W. Holmes, and J. R. Manley, all of them *opponents* of the doctrine and practice of Homœopathy—all *judges* of what they assumed to be false and dangerous, without *knowing* anything of the subject they so freely condemn. The world is indeed perverse and ungrateful, and men are not always swift to recognize or admit the most incontrovertible truths.

The *testimony* of the gentlemen above named, amounts to this: Homœopathy is a *sublimated imposture*, says one—it is *quackery*, says another—it is *absurd*, says a third—it is a *scheme for picking people's pockets*, says the fourth—it is *supremely ridiculous*, says the fifth—it is a *so-called science*, says the sixth—it is a *humbug*, says the seventh—it is a *mingled mass of perverse ingenuity*, says the eighth—and it is *between absolute quackery and a sublimated philosophy*, says the last. A precious enunciation of opinions, certainly, put forth by the "great unthinking" of the earth; yet, each wiser in his own eyes than seven that can render a reason. And is Homœopathy to be condemned thus? We think not, and raise our voices against all judgment unestablished by examination. We deny the right, and we deny the power of any man, or set of men, to pronounce the Homœopathic system false, or anything else, until it has been *fairly* investigated. Have these men any chartered right to intuition, any monopoly of knowledge, that *they* can decide upon a subject of which they *know nothing*? Are they not *less* qualified to form a judgment than others, and for the very good reason that their prejudices and education are wholly adverse to the new system? Is it forgotten, that the French Academy of Medicine once passed a *decree* that the blood did not circulate; that the same body of learned doctors denounced antimony, and procured from the assembly a positive prohibition of the use of Tartar Emetic? Did they not, after a few years, petition for a revocation of this prohibition?

It is well for science, assume what shape it may, that the people of this country are mani-

festly impatient of dictation. Those who are wise by law as well as by fact, need reminding of the truth, that faith will not follow, though the Supreme Court of this state has, or may decide, that "Homœopathy is quackery." Let the subject be among the "*res adjudicata*," and "a Doctor Paine" refused admission to a county Medical Society as "a quack," upon the "proof of professional witnesses, men who understand the subject." Let it be so, if our opponents *will* have it so; but we charge them to remember, that there is in the mind of man a moral elasticity—a power of *resistance*, only the more roused into action by such "*royal reasons*." Who are these "men who understand the subject?" Who these "professional witnesses," upon whose "*proof*" Homœopathy is adjudicated to be a fraud, and its practice criminal? They are Allopathic physicians, a set of men whose motives are too apparent to be misunderstood, whose zeal is without knowledge, whose "*testimony*" is valueless in determining questions like this, which demand the most exact and patient experiments, the most calm and thorough investigation. The very fact that they are medical men, casts a dark suspicion on their evidence, and irresistibly leads to the inference, that they would *swear to anything*, if but a temporary triumph could be achieved.

These are the men who *swear* that "Homœopathy is quackery." What is quackery? Dr. Dixon has *answered* the question, and answered it unanswerably. He's a queer chap, to be sure; but there's *honesty* about him, and that's more than can be said of the "genuine doctors," who figure so conspicuously in the New-York Directory. "*Quackery*," says Noah Webster, "is pretension to skill or knowledge not possessed." Oh! ye sapient "men who understand the subject," ye "professional witnesses," upon whose testimony Homœopathy is adjudged to be quackery, are each and every one of you willing to be tried by *that* definition? Do ye stand on solid ground? Have each of you that "skill and knowledge" which alone can enable you to claim an exemption from the damning fact, that *all* of you are quacks? There are the words, "*Mene, mene tekel upharsin*," ominous and deserved. See ye to it, that your skirts are cleared; look well to yourselves, we say, for, as ye *have not* the "skill and knowledge" to decide which fits you to decide Ho-

mœopathy to be quackery, your "pretensions" to such are absurd, and you bring yourselves within the scope of a just retribution. It will sooner or later come, for truth is not a dog, thus to be set upon by a host of yelping curs, formidable in the noise they make, to be sure, but in all other respects harmless.

Turning our attention now more particularly to the address of Dr. Blatchford, we notice the fact already alluded to, that it was delivered in the City of Troy, on the 14th of June, 1842, repeated before a "popular audience" on the 18th, and published in the Transactions of the State Society for 1843. With all its "ingenuity," amounting to nothing more or less than a demonstration of the author's ignorance, and a facile perversion and concealment of Hahnemann's sentiments and language, set forth in terms of reproach and condemnation, utterly beneath the dignity of a truly honorable physician, the address was but a nine days' wonder, and is not more terrible than the fly who "kicked up such a dust" upon the coach wheel.

After a quiet slumber of eight or nine years, during which period Homœopathy has made a steady progress that is perfectly shocking to the "regular" doctors, and in spite of "the ingenious and interesting address" of Thomas W. Blatchford, "*dead from neglect,*" the Transactions of the State Medical Society for 1843 have recently been robbed of their most valuable contribution. By a species of electro-magnetism, peculiar to the intelligence of the Allopathic brethren, when in "a tight place," the defunct *illustration* of Homœopathy has been re-animated for a brief period, to swell the pages of the Transactions for 1851—

A pious fever, taught to burn
An hour or two, to save a turn.

Before entering upon his "hopeless and thankless" task, (*hopeless* certainly, but not *thankless*,) Dr. Blatchford, by way of "introduction to the second edition," informs us that the "sheer ignoramus" has a greater control over the minds of the people than the educated physician. This is not a recent discovery; for "every page of the history of medicine proves its verity," and, as it was centuries ago, so it is *now* with human nature. In its main features there has been no great change, nothing more than a partial improvement by the slow progress of the lessons of forbearance and humility. "Intelligent physicians," says Dr. B., "have viewed Homœopa-

thy as an *error*, ever since it rose above the German horizon," and "*high authority*" has again and again denounced "*its pretensions*," and warned "*the credulous of its powerless prescriptions*." Therefore no "*reasonable man*," nor "*any intelligent physician*" would trust to it in times of danger. This reminds us of what the Abbé said to Scheiner:—"I have searched Aristotle through, and find nothing of the kind mentioned; be assured that all the spots on the sun are a deception of your senses or your glasses." We have not forgotten, if Dr. Blatchford has, that Virgilius, Bishop of Saltzburgh, was burnt by "*high authority*," his learned contemporaries, for having asserted that there existed antipodes. We remember that Oliver Cromwell was allowed to die of ague by his attending physicians, (*high authority* and *intelligent men*,) rather than permit him to take the Peruvian bark. We know that "*high authority*" repudiated the application of Columbus to the maritime republic of Genoa, and rejected his proposal "as the dream of a chimerical projector." It is "*humiliating*" to know, that on submitting his plan to Portugal, and having it referred to "*the most eminent cosmographers*," their prejudices baffled his success, and they (*high authority*,) "could not approve of his plan, without acknowledging his superior sagacity." Columbus, weary and dejected, went to Spain, and submitted his proposals to the "*intelligent men*" of that country. They reported that "if there were really any such countries as Columbus pretended, they could not have remained so long concealed, nor would the wisdom and sagacity of former ages have left the glory of this invention to an obscure Genoese pilot." For five years did Columbus contend with the "*obstinacy of ignorance* and the *pride of false knowledge*." He was still regarded as a "*visionary enthusiast*," by all who were "*high authority*," and in most repute for their studies and great experience. At last, a *monk* and a *physician* (no *authority* at all,) felt satisfied that his views were true, and once more, by their procurement, Columbus had a hearing at court. The subject was again referred to the most competent persons, the very *highest authorities*, and again reported on, as "*not only doubtful, but in no small degree ridiculous*." The queen, however, felt a sympathy for the poor navigator, and espoused his cause. Up to the mo-

ment of his departure, all the authorities *protested* against his project, and, but for the womanly enthusiasm of Isabella, the existence of this continent would not have been announced to the world.

Does the *fact* need substantiation that the *opinions of high contemporary authorities*, as regards new doctrines, are something worse than worthless? Dr. Blatchford has heard of one Harvey, the discoverer of the circulation of the blood, the very man who was pointed at and lampooned from one end of Europe to the other. There are some minds to whom one practical example is worth more than a volume of argument. We therefore glance at what is recorded of the early reception and progress of Harvey's discovery, for Dr. Blatchford's benefit. It is a dialogue between Lords Holland, Seymour, and Southampton:—

“ ‘One object of old Parr's going up to court is, that Harvey may study the case, and see if he can gain hints from it for lengthening our lives.’

“ ‘But surely,’ said the clergyman, ‘it can matter but little *what* Dr. Harvey concludes and gives out about the case of this old parishioner of mine, or any other case. No one can have any respect for his judgment in the face of the wild doctrines he gives out about the blood.’

“ ‘Does he adhere to that?’ asked Lord Southampton.

“ ‘Yes,’ replied Lord Holland. ‘He will ere long publish another tract upon it. It is astounding to see a man who seems otherwise rational and sensible, lose himself on this one point. There is no making any impression upon him; he persists as quietly as if all the wise people in the world agreed with him.’

“ ‘Quietly?’ said Lord Seymour: ‘I thought he was a passionate, turbulent fellow, who thought all the world a fool but himself.’

“ ‘Whatever he may think,’ replied Lord Holland, ‘he says nothing to give one such an idea: on the contrary, the most amusing, and yet melancholy part of the business is, his entire complacency. He is so self-satisfied that nothing can move him.’

“ ‘Dr. Oldham,’ said Southampton to the family physician, who sat smiling while this description of Harvey was given, ‘you have looked into this business—this pretended discovery—what have you to say to it?’

“ ‘But little, my lord; it is not worth so

many words as have just been spent upon it.—There is not a physician in Europe who believes in this pretended discovery.’

“ ‘After examination?’

“ ‘Surely, my lord. Any announcement of a discovery made by the physician whose merits have raised him to Dr. Harvey's post, cannot but meet with attention from a profession whose business it is to investigate the facts of the human frame and constitution.’

“ ‘Then known facts are against him?’

“ ‘Entirely. No point, for instance, is better understood, than that the arteries are occupied by the vital spirits, which are concocted in the left side of the heart, from the air and blood in the lungs.’

“ ‘And what says Harvey to this?’

“ ‘He controverts it of course. Neither the opposition of all living physicians, nor even the silence of Galen on this notion of his, has the least effect upon him. *It is sad and pernicious nonsense*, and ruinous to a man, who, but for this madness, might have been an honor to his profession. Of course his opinions on any subject are of no value now.’

“ ‘In the profession, do you mean, or out of it?’

“ ‘I believe there are a good many out of the profession who listen to him, open-mouthed, as to every professor of new doctrines; but it is an affair in which no opinions but those of physicians can be of any consequence, and as I said, not a physician in Europe believes Harvey's doctrines.’

“ ‘It ought to be put down,’ said Lord Salisbury, to which the clergyman gave an emphatic assent, observing that in so important an affair as a great question about the human frame, false opinions must be most dangerous, and ought to be put down. . . .

“ ‘And how is new knowledge to fare, when it comes?’ said Lord Southampton. ‘By my observation, Dr. Harvey's notion is so following the course that new knowledge is wont to run, that I could myself almost suppose it to be true. It has been called *nonsense*; that is the first stage. Now, if it be called *dangerous*, that is the next. I shall amuse myself by watching for the third. When it is said there is nothing new in it, and that it was plain to all learned men before Harvey was born, I shall know how to apportion Harvey his due honor.’

“ ‘I thought, my lord,’ said the physician,

'you had held my profession in respect.' The doctor smiled uneasily.

"Am I not doing homage to a most eminent member of it—perhaps the most eminent in the world?" said Lord Southampton; "and it appears that I am rather before than behind others in doing so. There is no man, not even the greatest, who may not stand hat in hand before the wise physician; and I, for my humble part, would even do so."

Dr. Blatchford, and all those who think and speak of Homœopathy as he does, will, we trust, recognize their portraits in the preceding sketch, for they have undoubtedly met with the original, and heard his very words applied to Hahnemann's views, and his explanations of them. Dr. Blatchford says: "Without the basis of *truth*, no subject can long endure the searching test of time." Right for once, Dr. B.: what then is to become of your address? We feel that we have *truth* on our side, and shall avail ourselves of it without anger, in the fullest confidence that it cannot be sullied by falsehood or hypocrisy. KOPP.

NEW-YORK, June 28th, 1851.

[To be Continued.]

FAMILIAR EXPLANATIONS, ETC.

(Continued from page 43.)

A. The facts you have just stated greatly surprise me; for I always thought that Homœopathy meant a small dose of medicine; so small, that none could either see, taste, or smell it; and am I not right in understanding, that the dose is so small as to be inappreciable to the ordinary senses, and that only such doses are employed by the Homœopathic practitioner?

B. You are quite right; the doses are small, necessarily so; and it is this circumstance that has afforded so fruitful a source of ridicule to the *witty* opponents of the system. You must, however, bear in mind, that Homœopathy, and the employment of minute doses, are two separate and distinct things. A remedy is Homœopathic, not from the quantity of the dose, but from its relation to the disease. Every remedy is Homœopathic whenever it stands in the relation of similarity to the disease intended to be cured, no matter if the dose be three grains, or the decillionth part of a grain. Hahnemann commenced his practice by administering the remedies in the usual quantities, and as any one might almost have foretold, fearful and dangerous aggravation of the disease took place. He therefore was compelled to diminish the dose considerably. There is, after all, nothing so very remarkable in small doses producing an effect, if we do

but consider, that when any part of the body is suffering from disease, it is susceptible of irritation from the most trifling cause. The hand, for instance, can be held to the fire, and submitted to a degree of heat that would be intolerable if any part of it were wounded by a burn. A headache may also be increased by a noise so slight, that one in health would scarcely notice. So also is the ordinary light of day productive of much suffering and pain to those afflicted with inflammation of the eyes. Cases of this kind might be mentioned without number; and many, no doubt, will occur to your mind. When medicines are administered that are intended to act upon organs already in a state of high susceptibility, the effect must be to augment suffering, unless the dose be extremely small.

A. But the doses employed are so exceedingly minute, that to me it appears there can be no medicine at all given, and therefore nothing to operate upon the system.

B. You are not the only one who thinks so; but let not the minute doses given under this mode of treatment prove to you a great stumblingblock, as it has to many. Dwell upon the fact that they do operate. Daily experience can testify to the salutary effects produced; and if you will but bear in mind, that doses of medicine must vary according to the principles by which the medicine is selected, you will no longer wonder that large doses are necessary to disturb health, or produce a new disease, whilst minute doses will always be sufficient to operate upon organs already affected. You must also remember, that the mode of preparing the remedies, develops in them active properties, which are not manifest in drugs prepared in the usual manner; so that many substances, which were considered to be inert, develop, by the peculiar process, active principles to a degree previously unheard of.

A. But how can so small a quantity operate? It really appears quite incredible.

B. I am not aware that any Homœopathist can, with certainty, say how they act; but they most certainly know that they do act; and with that they are satisfied, as any wise person would be. Now, observe these substances:—one is Arsenic, the other Epsom salts. Can you taste, smell, or in any way perceive any thing in them, that would lead you to suppose that one would act on the stomach, corroding and destroying it, and the other on the bowels as an aperient? Can you see such a difference in them, as would lead you to pronounce one to be a deadly poison, and the other a purgative? Can the wisest state a reason for the different effects these substances produce; and yet, who doubts it? Again, is it possible to conceive the size of the particles continually thrown off from a grain of musk? A grain of musk, you know, will scent an apartment for years. How inconceivably small then must each particle be, and yet how powerfully it affects the

olfactory nerves. We know these things to be so. We want no acute reasoning to convince us. We know facts by experiment, and it is by experience, and that alone, that the Homœopathic Law has been confirmed, and its practice regulated.

A. Doubtless we should believe but little if we believe only that which we can comprehend ; and our stock of knowledge would be exceedingly limited if we refused to admit the existence of effects, because the cause was beyond our comprehension. We know not how a seed bursts in the ground, and springs up, assimilating to itself the water, and air, and soil in which it is imbedded, and by which it is surrounded ; and how, upon the same soil, and surrounded by the same circumstances, one plant can become nutritious food, and another deadly poison ; yet we do not dispute the fact : but still, does it not appear more natural, that a disease should be successfully combated by a medicine, capable of producing a contrary effect, rather than by one having the power to produce a similar effect ?

B. Certainly ; for you know, instinct leads us, when too warm, to cool ourselves ; when thirsty, to moisten the mouth ; and these considerations have led to the employment of purgatives in constipation ; of astringents, in diarrhoea ; of refrigerants, or cooling medicines, in fever ; of sedatives, in pain ; of blood-letting, in an excited state of the circulation ; but this practice, so natural in theory, is dangerous and unsuccessful in practice. It is admitted that such methods may in many cases palliate, but it never cures directly ; it may relieve, but mostly at the expense of the patient's after health. Take for example a patient laboring under some violent nervous affection ;—a sedative, say opium, or a preparation from opium, is given ; the pain is relieved, but next day it returns ; the dose must be repeated ; and day after day the dose is not only repeated, but increased. Now what is the consequence ? The sufferings may be relieved, but in addition to removing pain, the drug acts in another way, it disorders the digestive organs, causing headache, constipation, &c., thus rendering the patient miserable ; so that the relief obtained is far from being equivalent to the permanently disordered health.

A. Well, I suppose there may be truth in that, for I have frequently found, that after taking medicine, although the complaint appears removed, still I felt very unpleasant sensations for some time.

B. No doubt ; for instance, in habitual costiveness, a purgative is administered, the bowels are acted upon, but soon re-action succeeds, and is superadded to the existing constipation ; the dose is repeated and increased, and soon will follow confirmed dyspepsia, and a train of ills, its necessary attendants. Again, the want of permanent success which follows bloodletting, is seen in the every-day case of individuals being bled for tendency of blood to the head.

Relief is obtained, but the so-called tendency soon returns ; the individual continues to be bled periodically, but with only temporary relief. The cause of the complaint has not been nor ever can be removed by such means ; and be it remembered, that this practice of bloodletting is most dangerous, for the vital energies are so much impaired, that the patient is unable to bear up against the disease. You may now, perhaps, from what I have said, see, that however natural the theory may be—to meet disease by medicine capable of producing a contrary effect, practice proves such a system to be not only almost useless, but decidedly dangerous and injurious.

A. Then I am to suppose, that no diseases can be cured in any other way than by Homœopathic remedies, and to believe that no cure has been effected by physicians according to the usual practice.

B. It is very doubtful whether diseases can be permanently cured by any other medicines than those which are capable of producing similar symptoms. I certainly would not deny, that cures have been effected by physicians under the usual practice ; for I believe that many have been very successfully treated ; still in all such cases, I think the Homœopathic Law might be recognised, although the physician might have been ignorant of its existence ; for Dr. Thompson, when speaking of arsenic as a tonic in intermittent fever, says, "it is not easy to explain the manner in which it produces its beneficial effects, as it sometimes produces symptoms at variance with our notions of those which follow the exhibition of a tonic, and yet it cures the disease ;"—the Homœopathic physician would say, and therefore it cures the disease ; because arsenic, if taken in sufficient quantities, does produce the symptoms of an intermittent fever, resembling ague. I have before mentioned sulphur, mercury, &c., as producing symptoms similar to those that characterize the diseases that sulphur, mercury, &c., will cure ; and so here we have proof from physicians, not Homœopaths, of the success attending Homœopathic remedies ; and the success would undoubtedly have been greater, had the curative principle been recognised and acknowledged ; for Homœopathic medicines have the power, as may readily be supposed, to aggravate the disease, and should be administered with caution, and in small quantities.

A. Does it not appear very extraordinary, that the existence of such a law in the curative art should have remained undiscovered for thousands of years ?

B. There is nothing very extraordinary that a law of nature should remain so long undiscovered. The ancients were quite aware that a stone, if loosed from the hand would fall to the ground ; but they did not suspect that the same power which caused the stone to fall, retained the moon in its orbit. The ancients also knew that amber, subjected to

friction, possessed the property of attracting light substances; but this did not lead them to the knowledge of the electric fluid. It requires an extraordinary genius surrounded by favorable circumstances, to discover a law of nature. If Newton had been educated in a farm-yard, instead of being educated at Cambridge, it is not at all probable that his genius would have been directed towards the investigation of the law of gravitation; and had Hahnemann been brought up, as it was intended he should be, to his father's business, that of a painter on porcelain, it is not at all probable his attention would have been directed to medicine. Both Newton and Hahnemann would have possessed great minds, in whatever pursuits they might have been engaged; but if the one had not received a Mathematical education, and the other a Medical education, it is not very probable that either would have made those discoveries that have immortalized their names. From these remarks you may also perceive how very absurd is the argument, or rather objection, made by many against the system, because it is *new*, therefore, they will not receive it. All discoveries were once new; and if we are to wait for age to give sanction to a discovery, each succeeding generation must remain deprived of the fruit of its industry and research; but we have seen already that the practice of Homœopathy is not new; although the discovery of the law may be, and a certain, successful practice, in conformity with this law, is a very powerful argument in its favor.

A. I can scarcely help smiling; but is it really true, that the dose of medicine given by Homœopathists is less than the millionth part of a grain?

B. Yes, and however strange it may appear, it is not the less true, that the infinitely small doses effect a cure after all the nauseous drugs, administered in poisonous quantities, have failed to effect aught but injury to the patient. Try the experiment in any slight ailment, and you would soon be convinced. The Homœopathist could give a larger dose, if the smaller one were not sufficient, but if experience tells you that a smaller dose is effectual, why have recourse to a larger one? But, as I have before observed, the quantity of the medicine has nothing whatever to do with the principles of Homœopathy. Let a physician act upon the principle of "like cures like," and he would be compelled to administer small doses. Practice would teach him, what it taught the great discoverer of the law, that any but extremely small doses were highly injurious to the patient.

A. One great advantage, I certainly can see in small doses, is, that they cannot weaken the patient, and if indeed effectual, there is no danger incurred.

B. And what a wonderful advantage is this. A patient is already weakened by the complaint; therefore, why weaken still more

by causing drugs to act violently upon the system? It is unreasonable. Let an individual of sound constitution and robust health, submit to the same bleeding, purging, and blistering, so much resorted to, in the ordinary practice in cases of acute disease, and then ask himself what would be the effect on his constitution? If such a course would wear down health and strength, how much more dangerous must be its consequence on those already weakened by sickness? Better, far better, leave the patient to nature, than thus fearfully aid and abet the ravages of disease. Hear what Dr. Elliotson says, in speaking of the use of mercury in liver complaints, We frequently, says he, break up the patient's constitution without affording him relief: and the same doctor asserts of Mr. Abernethy, that had he lived for a hundred years, and done good all the time, he would not have atoned for the mischief he has done by making people take blue pill. Half the people in England have been led to fancy that they cannot live without blue pill, which not only does no more good than any other purgative, but renders those who take it susceptible of cold, and must altogether be exceedingly injurious. Dr. Marshall says, that of the whole number of fatal diseases in infancy, a great proportion occur from this undue application of exhausting remedies, namely blistering, leeching, purging, &c. It must not be forgotten, that persons under the usual treatment, are submitted to "active measures," particularly should the case be acute; that is, they will be bled, or have to swallow large doses of calomel, or some other drug, that may happen to be the fashion of the time, and when this wholesale administration of drugs is followed by unfavorable results, the friends of the patient never permit themselves to attribute death to any other cause than the original disease, and the medical man does not feel himself called upon to proclaim the consequences of his practice; but when the consequences are not immediate, neither physician nor patient feel inclined to refer a chronic disease in after life to the baneful effects of drugs employed in curing a former disease. Medical men—

A. Really such observations appear very frightful, but at the same time I must acknowledge there is truth in what you say. I confess I never saw cases in such a light before.

B. Medical men, I was about to say, acknowledge that some medicines in frequent use possess the power of accumulating in the body, and then suddenly breaking out into dangerous, incurable disease; incurable, because proceeding from poisonous drugs, that have entered every tissue of the frame. Discolored skin, livid lips, diseased liver, dropsy, and other fearful disorders, are stated by physicians as the results of the retention in the body of drugs administered at some former period. Dr. Elliotson says, when a person has taken a great quantity of chalk mixture,

and even magnesia, concretions have sometimes been formed. In the museum of St. Thomas's Hospital, there is a preparation where the intestines of a child are completely blocked up with magnesia : it has the appearance of hard mortar, regularly cemented.

A. Do you think it possible, that thousands of well educated men should have been all this time in error as to the principles of the curative art?

B. Ask yourself, is the ordinary practice of medicine such as to induce any one to believe, that the introduction of any new discovery is quite unnecessary? Is it such as will convince any one of the impossibility of further improvement? Has it, think you, reached the acme of perfection? Do you suppose that a physician, administering three, four, or perhaps twenty different drugs, in one nauseating dose, can say what effect each, or all of them, can have on the diseased patient? Read the books of these well educated men, and then say if it be possible to establish anything like a system out of such a medley of controversy and contradiction. Sir Arthur Clark states that Stohll attributes the frequency of consumption to the introduction of Peruvian Bark. Morton considers the bark an effectual cure. Reid ascribes the frequency of the disease, to the use of mercury; while Brillonet asserts, that it is curable by this mineral only. Rush says that consumption is an inflammatory disease, and should be treated by bleeding, purging, cooling medicines, and starvation; whilst Salvadore says, it is a disease of debility, and should be treated by tonics, stimulating remedies, and a generous diet. Dr. Beddoes recommends foxglove as a specific in consumption; Dr. Parr says, foxglove is more injurious than beneficial; and the late Professor Gregory used to declare, that ninety-nine out of a hundred medical doctrines were little better than stark staring nonsense. In smallpox, in croup, in catarrh, in dysentery, in delirium tremens, in every disease that flesh is heir to, one treatment is recommended and practised by some physicians, while others recommend a practice and treatment the very reverse; so that if one mode of treatment be right, the other mode must be wrong; and it too frequently occurs, that while one is wrong, the other is wrong also. With such conflicting facts as these on record, one might imagine the confidence of those would be shaken who so tenaciously adhere to the common practice, and arouse them to exercise their judgment a little more than they do, in matters that so very materially affect their well being; but some seem to think, that to depart from an old beaten track is a most unpardonable enormity.

(To be Continued.)

DR. KIRBY,

DEAR SIR: I love the cause of Homœopathy, and find a reward in its pursuit and

practice, which cannot be gained in the practice of Allopathy; not in a pecuniary point of view, for I think in the present state of public opinion, the Allopaths have the advantage in that regard.

Our brethren of the Allopathic school, I mean the educated, the scientific, the regular, are becoming more cunning, if not wiser than formerly; they see and feel that the indiscriminate use of deleterious drugs is absolutely pernicious, that it forms new diseases, that it prostrates the system, and often hastens to a fatal termination; and so we often hear, "Oh, our physician gives but a very little medicine." A lady informs me that she takes but a very little medicine, and yet she is sick all the time. I have the curiosity before I can prescribe to know what she does take. "Only a little Sarsaparilla mixture." I request to see the recipe. Here it is.

R	Compound Syrup Sarsaparilla,	1 pint.
	Tinct. Cascarilla,	ʒ ij.
	Sulph. Magnesia,	ʒ ij.
	Acid Hydrocyanic,	qts. xx.

Table spoonful doses.

The above is a recipe from a scientific physician in full practice.

Nay, such men (of the upper crust I mean) will trust much to efforts, nature and simple remedies, among his own families and where he is the family physician. But let him be called upon a consultation with a brother Allopath, and we shall find, that the very little medicine doctor prescribes, and the patient takes, medicine in heroic doses. To illustrate this, permit me to refer to a case which came within my own knowledge.

A woman of firm health, broken down by intemperate habits, was seized with inflammation of the brain. Her physician, by means of blue pill, valerian, and cathartics, finding he was losing his patient, was moved to consult with a physician of extensive practice, who advised, in addition to the valerian, Nux Vom. Tinct. 25 drops once in 4 hours. The nurse gave it to her for 48 hours. 300 drops she had given, when she told the attending physician very modestly, that she was fearful the medicine was too powerful. He advised her to abate 5 drops, to give 20 drops, once in 4 hours. At the expiration of 48 hours more I was called in, examined into the case, was satisfied that there was nothing to be done, and prescribed nothing. The patient died that night. 540 drops of strong Tinct. Nux Vom

York, Me. June, 24th, 1851.

in 96 hours. *Shade of Hahnemann!* where was your pathogenesis of Nux Vomica.

Now I am not speaking or writing of the common empirics of the day; their name is legion. The men that I speak of are men of science, literary men, valuable (in most instances) family physicians; men "who do not give much medicine;" men with whom I have heretofore taken sweet counsel, and whom I still respect and regard for their many virtues. One more illustration and I have done. A friend of mine, whose child is somewhat troubled with a vermicular affection, about 5 years of age, has been under my care from its infancy, has had pretty good health, with the single exception of "*ascarides*" occasionally. But, for a few months past, has had occasional giddiness—rarely so as to fall—never, but in a single instance. The parents were induced to consult a physician, out of town, of known ability, extensive practice, and particularly one of those modern physicians, who give but little medicine; and I was willing, provided he would procure his opinion and prescription in writing and bring them to me. The father did so, and brought me the following prescription.

One bottle Townsend's Sarsaparilla, and add to it Mur. Hydrarg. (Cor. Sub.) 2 grs., Tinct. Iodine, 3 i., Hydriot. Potassa, 3 ij. The usual dose.

What under the sun was this mixture intended for?

But I have done. Yours very respectfully,
JAS. T. PUTNAM.

HOMOEOPATHY—ITS PROGRESS.

The disciples of Hahnemann must feel extremely honored by the position their system of healing has attained within the space of a very few years. The gradual expansion of their principles, and the popularity they have acquired through the influence of the high medical and lay patronage they have received, cannot fail to rouse into action any individuals who have remained dormant, and who have hesitated openly and candidly to avow their connection with Homeopathy and its progress. The question of secret conviction, associated with the fear of candid confession, is one that has frequently, in several quarters, pressed itself upon our attention.

From what we have lately seen and heard we are quite prepared to believe that there are thousands existing who, while really Homœopathists at heart, do not possess the

moral courage to declare themselves. This is not as it ought to be. Any apprehensions entertained on this ground are futile, and they should at once be discarded. The circumstances that the advocates of Allopathy every now and then attempt to run a muck against their adolescent and vigorous rival, should not create the least fear in the minds of those who know the basis upon which the new philosophy is so thoroughly grounded.

The ranks of the Allopathists themselves have been thinned by the conversions which have been steadily proceeding, and many others there are who would willingly give up boloses and draughts for infinitesimal doses, were they enabled to avoid what they appear to consider the responsibility of causing dissent among the higher branches of their profession.

It is evident, therefore, that the medical as well as the lay community of the Homœopaths, whenever they discover the germ of conviction, should so follow it up as to afford those who are prepared to acknowledge and adopt the philosophy of their illustrious founder, the opportunity of accomplishing it in a manner befitting and worthy of the high mission in which they are engaged.

The next two or three months will bring about events which must either in a greater or lesser degree promote the extension of Homœopathic knowledge. Whether those proceedings occur in connexion with the proposed Bazaar for the Hahnemann Hospital, or the Congress, said to be in course of organization for the mutual discussion between English and foreign practitioners, one result will surely accrue, viz., the distinct averment that Homœopathy has established for itself a successful career, and that the slanders propagated by its enemies have solely their foundation in falsehood. Nothing can prevent this end being accomplished, whatever may be asserted to the contrary.

We ourselves are looking forward to an immense accession of converts. Daily experience leads us to the knowledge that Homœopathy is more than ever appreciated, and that the public, despite the virulent abuse of the Allopathic fraternity, are recognizing in their full force the advantages derivable from the introduction of the new system. A dignified forbearance under the ridicule attempted to be cast upon Hahnemann and his followers will but serve to bring the merited contempt, which the promoters of the scandal must eventually secure to themselves for their exertions. As was eloquently stated on a recent occasion when the question of the foundation of hospitals was first mooted, "We have seen the science, of which the mass of the people were almost entirely ignorant, pass through all the stages of neglect, derision, and opposition, until, heard of on every hand, it has reached the crowning triumph now accomplished, and through which its practical footing is rendered safe." Of this there is no doubt, and hence our maligners will ultimately

discover the real effects of their abuse. *Est modus in rebus*, and our opponents will soon experience the truth of the observation.—*Hom. Times.*

AN EXPLANATION.

In the June number of this Journal, we published a communication from Dr. Griffith, of Louisville, Kentucky, which was sent to us as an advertisement, which we did not avail ourselves of, but published it in the ordinary way as a letter. In the July number we admitted a letter from Dr. Stewart, of New Albany, Indiana, who discarded all knowledge of the proceedings said, by Dr. Griffith, to have taken place. Since which, we have received three long articles, one from Dr. Gilman, one from Dr. Campbell and one from Dr. Jordan, all dated Louisville, Ky. We cannot perceive any good that would accrue from the publication of these communications, except to promote the interest of Dr. Gilman, who, we should judge from the testimony before us, is in rather bad odor among the Doctors in Louisville.

All the above gentlemen agree that there was no attempt made to teach Homeopathy in the Allopathic College in Louisville. The fact seems to be that Dr. Gilman, who claims to be a Homœopath, taught Anatomy in the Eclectic College in that city; and in justice to Dr. Griffith, we ought to say that he so stated in his letter to us, and the word Allopathic was substituted by us for Eclectic, as we are in the habit of regarding them essentially one and the same. Dr. G. said, he wrote in haste and wished us to correct errors, which, by the by, is a duty we do not like to perform, lest we might misrepresent our correspondents. There is evidently a quarrel among some of the Doctors in Louisville, and we do not see clearly where the public interest is involved in it. There is an attack on Dr. Gilman's personal character, with which we have nothing to do; and those who have written to us, no doubt, on reflection will perceive that we are justified in doing no more than this editorial explanation. We do not, however, see it contradicted that a charter for a Homœopathic College has been obtained from the Kentucky legislature. In fact, we have been requested to suggest the names of gentlemen for some of the chairs. By the way, we doubt much the expediency of increasing the number of

Homœopathic colleges just at this time, unless we have the men who are competent to act as professors of the different branches of medical and surgical science.

Now, gentlemen of Louisville, we say in conclusion, if we have really been imposed upon, as some of you state, we will take care in future, how we publish letters from those of whom we have no knowledge.

A MOUNTAIN OF MAGNESIA IN CALIFORNIA.

On Pitch (or Pitt) River, the principal affluent of the Sacramento, which flows through a charming valley, and about five days' journey from Goose Lake, there is a hill of pure carbonate of magnesia, 100 feet high. Much of it is perfectly white, while some is more or less discolored with iron, as if a painter had been striving to give effect by a coloring of light and shade. Large masses were easily detached, which, rolling down into the river that washed its base, floated off as light and buoyant as cork, until it became saturated with water. A thousand wagons could be loaded in a very short time, and there is enough to supply the whole world. For three days' travel below, the soil seems to be impregnated with it, and the banks of the river formed of it.—*Scientific American.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SIR,—Despite the ravings and denunciations so lavishly bestowed upon Homœopathy and its professors by the *Lancet*, the cause is making most glorious progress; each day gives some new indication that its principles are being recognized and adopted by large numbers of the community in all parts of the kingdom. The ultimate success of Homœopathy is now placed beyond doubt; the scoffers are becoming its staunchest advocates; and the waverers and doubters are becoming confirmed in the truths of its laws. Such has ever been the result of every discovery in science which has had its basis fixed upon the eternal principles of Truth. The malevolent and unworthy opposition which has been raised in the columns of the *Lancet* against the Homœopathic system, has tended to increase the number of its believers rather than to create fresh enemies to it. Many have been led to examine the Hahnemannian philosophy, and to ascertain for themselves whether a system which was designated as “horrid and disgusting quackery,” really merited the obloquy cast upon it. It required

but little study of its principles to discover that they are calculated, if applied in the same spirit with which their Founder taught them, to mitigate human suffering and to ameliorate many of the evils which press upon mankind; that they will diffuse the blessing of health among millions who might otherwise have been doomed to a life of pain and misery; and that a population comparatively free from disease, may result from their general adoption, the beneficial effects of which will be exhibited in the improved morals and habits of the community. There can be but little doubt that these have been the conclusions of many who have hitherto yielded an implicit obedience to the Allopathic practitioner; that they appreciate the advantages of Homœopathy, and that they are determined to avail themselves of the benefits which are to be derived from it.

THE "GOLD PILLS" ANALYZED.

As I had several cases to attend, where the patients had taken the so-called "gold pills," advertised and sold in New York, and I was allowed to take 5 pieces of the costly things with me, I asked a friend, one of the most skilful chemists on this side the water, to make an aualysis as far as the small quantity would allow. His report is:

During the dry distillation ammoniacal vapors with a decided and strong smell of tobacco, like the juice which collects in the pipes of smokers.

5 pieces left 0.15 grains of brown ashes. The ashes contained slight traces of gold, more of iodine, oxide of iron and silicea. It is thus very probable that the pills were a mixture of iodide of iron and some chloride of gold. The silicea seemed to be an accidental impurity. Thus far the chemist.

The pills were evidently made of bread; and as the manufacturer could make them for five cents a box, and the box was sold for \$1 50, the moderate per centage of gain (only 3000 per cent.) allowed the vendor money enough for advertisements, and as the advertisements attracted and induced the credulous and the ignorant to swallow the contents of the boxes in all kinds of ailments, the iodide of iron in the large, or the chloride of gold in the smaller doses, might happen among hundreds of patients to improve now and then one, and this one case becomes a lure for hundreds of others.

The sandy particles were impurities either

of the bread, which very likely was of the coarsest kind, or accidentally added during the preparation. The tobacco smell might be explained on the supposition that tobacco chewers had been employed in preparing them, and had used what was "on hand" to give the necessary moisture to the mass.

Such is the way quacks treat the public.

C. HERING.

DEAR SIR: I am requested in behalf of the College to communicate to your Journal the following notice of the late Dr. Matthews.

Died on the 27th of May last, CALEB BENTLEY MATTHEWS, M. D., *Prof. of Mat. Med. and Therapeutics*, in the Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania. Dr. Matthews was universally esteemed for the many excellent qualities that adorned his character as a gentleman and physician. He was actively engaged in the profession for nearly thirty years; and was favorably regarded as a gentleman of distinguished attainments in general and medical science. He was at one time an editor of the *Medical Recorder*, published in Philadelphia, a quarterly Journal of extensive circulation; through which medium he became extensively known as an able writer upon medical subjects. He was held in high estimation by his medical brethren of the Allopathic school, and was formerly one of the consulting physicians of the *Frankford Asylum for the Insane*. In the pursuit of medical science he was led to investigate Homœopathy about fifteen years previous to his death, at which time he became a zealous, faithful and conscientious advocate of the *Hahnemannian doctrine*, which he continued to practice and disseminate until the close of his life. He filled his chair in the Hom. Medical College with distinguished credit and marked ability for the last three years. He was honored and beloved by his colleagues and pupils, who greatly lament his loss. He was universally esteemed in the community where he labored, as an honest and upright man; kind and faithful as a physician, and a sincere Christian. He died of *phthisis pulmonalis*, in full possession of the Christian's hope of a glorious immortality.

I am, with great respect,

Your obedient servant,

A. E. SMALL.

*Argyle, Washington Co., N. Y.,
May 21, 1851.*

DR. KIRBY—DEAR SIR,—Thinking that a voice from Washington Co. might not be devoid of interest to some of the readers of your excellent Journal, I send you the history of a case of insanity cured by me during the present Spring, as an evidence that the friends of Homeopathy, though few in numbers, and despite of every opposition, are steadily advancing their beloved branch of medical philosophy, and that but a few years will suffice for us to bear the glad tidings to the world that the majority of the inhabitants of old Washington Co. will be as willing to fight with word and argument under the banner “*Similia similibus curantur*,” as were their ancestors to defend the tree of liberty with rifle and bullet.

This beautiful science was only known by name with us until a few years since, when its first introduction was made in this town by a divine who practised it somewhat among his people during the performance of his pastoral duties, and slowly and steadily did it gain friends, (for once won, forever won,) under his feeble efforts in the cause, until the system was adopted by Dr. J. Savage, an old school physician, and myself, since when, it has made rapid advances in our hands, and daily is its efficacy being seen and felt more and more.

As yet, we reckon only nine or ten physicians in this county, and most in the enjoyment of excellent practices, and although few in numbers, we are of strong hearts, and go forth unhesitatingly to meet the assaults of our enemies (who are many), feeling assured that their assaults will hasten our triumph, and their blows will recoil upon themselves with a tenfold force.

Subjoined is the history of the case of insanity effectually treated by me.

CASE.—The subject of the following case was a fine little fellow about ten years of age. Being very fond of his book, he applied himself assiduously to study during the winter just past.

In January he received a blow upon the head, which, at the time, was but little thought of by his friends; but his brother informs me he has complained at times of headache in the locality of the blow received, which was on the parietal bone, just above its articulation with the temporal.

During the latter part of February, he was

attacked with a whitlow upon the index finger, which was of so painful a nature as to rob him of almost his entire rest, and completely prostrated his nervous system; soon he began to complain of headache, and shortly became delirious, believing all his friends Indians desiring to murder him, when approached by them.

An Allopathist was called, who commenced treating him for Hydrocephalus by applying blisters, administering powerful cathartics, &c., for a number of days without the least improvement, when he informed his friends he could do nothing more for him and abandoned his case as a hopeless one.

His mother having previously witnessed the beneficial effects of Homeopathy among her friends, sent for me March 29th. I went but he would not see me, and should I but touch the door of his room as if to enter it he would rave and yell like a madman. I learned from his mother as near as possible his symptoms, which were as follows:

Does not recognize his own relatives, and believes them Indians coming to slay him; desires no one in his room but his mother, who he at times appears to recognize; aversion to talk, and when spoken to gazes at you with a fixed, furious look; wild eyes; disposed to be vehement and peevish; dull and heavy sensation of head; constipation; sleeps very well but upon waking is lost and absent, and desires to be taken home. I commenced the treatment by giving one dose of Aconite 6th, ascertaining the pulse to be rapid, and the skin hot and dry; afterwards prescribed Belladonna 6th and Hyoscyamus 3d, believing these to be the remedies requisite. April 2d. Somewhat improved, opened his door and looked at me, but would not permit me to approach him. The constipation still continuing, with the dull, heavy head. I substituted Nux vomica 3d for the Hyoscyamus, and continued the Belladonna. April 5th. More decided improvement, came to me with but little reluctance, and upon exhibiting to him the vials in my medicine case, he seemed much pleased and amused, but still a disinclination to talk and a wild fixed look of the eye. April 10th. Perfectly restored to his right mind, and yesterday, May 20th, he called at my office apparently in the enjoyment of as good health as he ever possessed.

Yours respectfully, &c.,

A. M. SAVAGE.

BOOK NOTICES.

Homœopathic Treatment of Diseases of the Sexual System by F. HUMPHREYS, M. D., of Utica, N. Y., pp. 144. Wm. Radde, New York.

The author says, "In this work may be found, arranged under their appropriate chapters and sections, all the symptoms relating to the sexual system of the male and female, so that the practitioner can be at no loss to find promptly the appropriate medicament for any required morbid condition."

A Pocket Manual or Repertory of Homœopathic Medicine, by Dr. J. BRYANT, of Brooklyn, N. Y., duodecimo pp. 362. William Radde, New York.

The above works are similar in character. The latter is a universal Repertory, and the former a special one. They are both compilations, and a cursory examination has not enabled us to discover anything new in the matter, nor in the arrangement. They are neatly got up, and their authors have been industrious and careful to have them correct.

We do not approve of the multiplication of Repertoires, we have too many already. Repertoires are used too much by practitioners, that is to say, they are made to take the place of the *Materia Medica*. Take for example the clinical remarks in Jahr's Repertory; which are not worth the paper upon which they are printed; for the truth of this remark, we appeal to every thorough homœopathic practitioner who has used them as a guide in the selection of remedies. So also most of the clinical observations of Noack and Trinks, and those of the *Real Lexicon*, some of which may be found translated without credit in Hull's Jahr. We happen to open at this moment to *Magnesia Carbonica*, where appears the following in brackets, "[It deserves attention in headache during menstruation; in derangement of the stomach in children, attended with diarrhoea and acidity; in chronic constipation; in worm complaints, with green, frothy, acid smelling diarrhoeas, &c., &c. Ed.]" While on this subject we have a remark or two to make; the matter of the above note is of no value to the genuine homœopathist, and yet almost every drug mentioned in the first edition of Hull's Jahr, has a similar note from

the *Real Lexicon*, but claimed by the editor of Jahr as his own, with an &c., &c., attached to each. We always regarded these notes thus printed as advertisements; having answered that purpose, they are left out of the third edition which appeared a few months since, but others and original ones are substituted here and there which are equally pernicious, and advertisement like. A word or two more in reference to the works of Drs. Humphreys and Bryant. We see no reason to doubt that their Repertoires are equal and perhaps superior to others of a similar kind. But we do not believe in a short and easy method of treating diseases homœopathically, nor can we sanction the object stated in the publications under notice, that they are especially designed to enable laymen, and, says Dr. H., females to prescribe for themselves. It is time there was an end to the publication of works for "Domestic" use. Those we now have, except Hering's and Pulte's, are of little value. Again, we do not believe a sick person, not even a physician, competent to prescribe for himself; thousands have lost their lives by doing so, and thousands are now suffering daily from chronic diseases from the same cause. Again, we do not see the pertinency of the attempt to induce every man to believe he may with a Repertory or a Domestic work practice Homœopathy. This may be accomplished in Allopathy but not in Homœopathy. We have thus briefly expressed our thoughts, which were suggested by the works under notice, and we could not answer it to our conscience to aid in what can never safely be accomplished, to make "every man his own doctor."

An Address delivered before the Central New York Homœopathic Society, at Syracuse, New York, June 3d, 1851, by F. Humphreys, M. D., on "*the Materia Medica*."

An Address delivered before the Rhode Island Homœopathic Society, May 7th, 1851, by Charles Neidhard, M. D., of Philadelphia, Pa.

A letter to Thomas E. Bond, A. M., M. D., on Homœopathy, by J. Schmidt, of Baltimore, Md.

These three pamphlets we have not yet read. We shall do so, and notice them in our September number.

The Homœopathic Advocate and Guide to Health.

The above is the title of a monthly periodical of 16 pages, double column, published in Keene, N. H., and edited by D. White, M. D. It has reached its 4th number, and receives the sanction of the Homœopathic physicians of New Hampshire. It is conducted with ability, and will no doubt have a large circulation.

HOMŒOPATHY enjoyed two festivals in London yesterday—one at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate Street, the other at the Albion, in Aldersgate Street, with noblemen in the chair at each place. At the first of these the Hahnemann Hospital was the object of support; at the other, the London Homœopathic Hospital. At the London Tavern, Lord Robert Grosvenor took the chair; at the Albion, the Marquis of Worcester; and at both places reports were read declaring the great success of the institutions sought to be benefited. At both also an after-dinner collection was made in aid of the funds.—*Hom. Times.*

NEW PROPOSITION.

As we desire to extend the circulation of this Journal as far as possible, we have concluded to make the following proposition to physicians and the friends of Homœopathy, which we hope will be responded to without delay, viz.:—We will send eight copies to one Post office for five dollars (\$5); twenty copies for ten dollars (\$10); fifty copies for twenty dollars (\$20), cash in advance.

J. F. DESILVER, 112 Main Street, Cincinnati, is an agent for this Journal.

Subscribers in Philadelphia, Pa., may receive this Journal regularly through RADEMACHER & SHEEK, 239 Arch Street.

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DOMESTIC HOMŒOPATHY.

Just published: DR. C. HERING'S DOMESTIC PHYSICIAN, revised, with additions, from the author's manuscript of the Seventh German edition. Containing, also, a Tabular Index of the medicines, and the diseases in which they are used. *Fifth American Edition.* 515 pp. 8vo. Price \$2. Published by RADEMACHER & SHEEK, and for sale by Wm. Radde, 322 Broadway, New-York. Otis Clapp, 23 School-st., Boston. N. C. Peabody, 13 West-st., Boston. J. G. Wesselhaft, 64 North 4th-st., St. Louis. J. G. Backenstorf, Pittsburgh. J. F. Desilver, Cincinnati. H. Hupfeld, 274 Market-st., Baltimore. W. H. Fox, Natchez.

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"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."

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S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

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American Journal of Homœopathy.

NEW-YORK, SEPTEMBER, 1851.

THE MEDICINAL FORCES.

An Essay presented to the Homœopathic Medical College, Philadelphia, March, 1851. By J. P. DAKE, A. B., M. D., of Pittsburgh, Pa.

THE Creator, in giving existence to the various bodies and atoms of matter that compose our earth, imparted to them certain forces. To those forces, that they should not work discord and ruin, He imparted specific laws. Every movement or change, therefore, that has occurred in the material world, since the birth of being, has been an effect of those forces, acting in obedience to those laws.—Men, endowed with sense and reason have ever aspired to learn this economy and to trace these operations in nature. Heathen philosophers, impatient to solve the mysteries of creation, formed hypotheses; and on them sailed far beyond the sphere of sober facts. Ever striving to reach the “prima causa;” to learn the essence of being and to scan the secret springs within the veil, they were only lost amid their own imaginings; and in the end

came far short of any practical knowledge of what they daily witnessed around them. Nor were those enlightened by Revelation more successful. All, alike, struggled on through life, ignorant and heedless of the force and laws, operating ever the same, whether in the earth, the air, or the sea. But when at length men began their investigations at home, in their own sphere, by studying carefully the phenomena so long overlooked and despised by speculative philosophers: when upon facts instead of hypotheses they went on to the attainment of knowledge and discovery of truth, success began to reward their labors. It was not long before all terrestrial objects were compared, classified and arranged in orders. But the work of generalization among the movements witnessed in those objects progressed more slowly. To mark every change occurring in the relations and properties of matter; to gather those changes into groups and thence rightly to trace the forces producing them, required a closeness of discrimination possessed by few. But as the inductive age, advancing, opened wider the field of observation and poured upon it a clearer light, even this great undertaking became successful.

As we now look forth upon the moving, changing world, we are not altogether at a loss to account for what we see. In the falling body we at once recognize the force of gravitation. In the vivid flash and hoarse thunder of the sky, we learn the presence of electricity. In the towering edifice and vast machine, we behold evidence of the mechanical forces: while in the atomic structure and changes we trace the chemical. Or, looking again within us, we recognize the vital forces which according as they act in one or another organ or apparatus of the body we term, Vis nervosa, Vis muscularis, et cetera. But in the changes which we experience from

the use of medicinal agents, what class of forces do we recognize? If we say *mechanical*, the fool may philosophize as well as we.—If we say *chemical*, we greatly err; for, according to the laws of chemistry its forces must produce in the living only such effects as they do upon the dead. Every change, therefore, experienced in the organism from the use of drugs, which does not follow their application to the lifeless corpse, must be referred to some other than a *chemical* cause. Or, if we say *vital*, we err; for inorganic matter neither possesses vital energy, or is capable of producing it. Or, again, if we say *dynamic*, although we depart not from the truth, yet we employ an ambiguous, indefinite term; one variously used in works on Biology and Mechanics. Thus we are, at last compelled to the conclusion, that in accounting for the changes, physical and psychical, experienced in the use of drugs, we must look for causes not yet explained in Natural Philosophy, Chemistry or Physiology. Knowing what we do of such causes, perhaps we cannot better distinguish them, than by the general term Medicinal Forces. It is our purpose, now, briefly to consider the nature and operation of these newly classified forces; and thence, to infer their proper use in the removal of disease.

They occur in all the three kingdoms of nature; but have not been sought out and studied so much in the Animal as in the Mineral and Vegetable. Although unable to trace the invisible links connecting them with matter, yet we know that they are attached to every homogeneous atom of their native homes; and so strongly attached as to defy all mechanical efforts at their alienation.

We are well aware, in making this last statement, that men of learning and long experience have entertained opposite views; believing that, by certain manipulations these, like the electrical forces, could be transferred to other and comparatively neutral substances. Had we no simpler mode of accounting for the medicinal phenomena, then such a theory would at least claim our attention: but so long as we are led by facts and the best of analogy we need not thus soon leap the bounds of the material world.

To some the solution of a drug by means of water or alcohol seems to be a separation of its medicinal forces from their original dwell-

ings; whereas, in fact, it is but a separation from each other, of those very dwellings by intervening particles of fluid. The pharmacist may think himself able easily to disprove our principle in his process of percolation: but let him not begin the attempt till he has duly considered the size of atoms and their readiness to pass through the pores of his finest septa. Even the chemist is unable to transfer these forces. When he succeeds in tearing them from their material atoms they at once and forever lose their identity and are no more obedient to their original laws.

Since medicinal forces are thus incorporated with atoms of matter, it is evident that they can act only as those atoms are brought in contact with that which is to be acted upon. Hence we draw the practical conclusions, that the power of a drug is in proportion to the number of medicinal atoms it contains; and that the availability of that power is in proportion to the number of those atoms made superficial. To these we may add another, that since divisibility *ad infinitum* is a property of all matter, we must acknowledge the presence of medicinal power in the highest possible attenuation of a drug, even though we are unable to detect it by any of our senses. Having thus glanced at our new class of forces in their passive, we will now consider them in their active state. While the mechanical and chemical operate in lifeless, inorganic bodies, these act only in the living animal organism. When medicinal atoms are brought in contact with the nervous or circulatory system of man, their forces, ever hostile to those moving the nice machinery of life within, at once become belligerent.—Therefore according to their peculiar emnities seeking out those which officiate in one or another organ, or apparatus of the body, they make an attack. The vital forces, being thus detained from the discharge of accustomed duties, organs are neglected, functions deranged, health impaired, and the man made sick. Here then, in the changes experienced by the healthy man, from the use of a medicinal substance, are manifest the operations of a medicinal force.

Therefore, he who, traversing forest and field, marshy lowlands and mountain heights; or he who delving deep down in the bowels of earth, to discover these forces and the laws

governing their action, need take with him as an experimenting apparatus, only *sana mens in sano corpore*. Should he invite the toxicologist and chemist to accompany him on his expedition, let them not suppose that it is because they are able to discover what he *cannot*; but, because, having been spectators on former occasions, their remembrance of the facts discovered and their general knowledge may render their company agreeable, and at times their suggestions useful.

What know *they* of poisonous properties that they did not first learn from the *vital test*? Thus furnished with crucible and retort, far surpassing in excellence and value any made by human skill, the experimenter proceeds to try the various substances before him. In the appearance of morbid changes consequent upon the use of a substance he discovers the *presence* of the medicinal forces: while their *disposition, power and duration of action*, he learns respectively from the nature, extent and continuance of those changes.

These experiments carefully tried by various individuals, afford us all that we can ever know of the medicinal properties and powers of matter. Hence it is only by the collection of facts thus discovered that a reliable Materia Medica can be formed. The works commonly bearing that noble title, composed as they are, for the most part, of unimportant facts or whimsical fancies, are a mere burlesque upon science and a blind guide to all who follow them. To *Hahnemann* we are indebted for the first Materia Medica, composed of reliable and useful facts.

His "*Materia Medica Pura*" will ever stand in the scientific world, a monument to his genius, his learning, and his powers of untiring research: while around it as a nucleus, must ever gather all that is true and good in Medicine.

Having now before us the nature and modus operandi of the medicinal forces, it only remains to consider the rationale of disease, in order at once to discover their proper use in the healing art.

There are, guided by the mysterious hand of Providence, a multitude of forces, by men designated "morbific causes." These, whether entering the human organism through the mind, or through the contact of material atoms, seize upon the vital forces and hinder

much their usual operations. The disturbance thus begun, spreads through organs and functions, till disease is established and made manifest by various symptoms in the body or mind, or in both. If the assailants are weak, the "*vis medicatrix naturæ*" soon overcomes them and health is restored. But if they are too strong, the vital forces are held in their grasp, while disorder goes on spreading itself through the system. In this latter case it is that the Physician is called upon to exercise his art. Coming to the bed-side of the invalid he must first determine what assistance is needed. To attempt the restoration of order through the vital domain while the forces of life are held in durance, would be vain and foolish. Therefore to set *free* those forces is his only duty. To accomplish this by direct action upon the invading powers he cannot, since he has no forces antagonistic to them.—Those that he possesses in the Materia Medica, being all PATHOGENETIC, are so near akin to the Morbific, that if they act at all, they will only act in *alliance* with them. Remembering now the universal law of action and reaction, he at once discovers that if by any means he can impart a gentle but sudden impulse to the vital forces, that will move them yet a little farther from their natural state, their reaction will overcome what their *strength alone* could not.

He examines carefully the symptoms of the patient to ascertain the forces chiefly attacked and the direction in which they are held from duty, and then turning to his Materia Medica, searches among the symptoms recorded there, till he finds a medicine known to act upon the same forces and in the same direction. With a due regard now, on the one hand to the pathogenetic power of the agent and on the other to the diminished resistance of the vital forces, he graduates his dose.

Upon the first contact of the atoms administered, their forces simultaneously leap out and rush with their kindred upon the common prey. But, their own power being completely exhausted in the first onset they barely move the vital forces a little farther from their usual sphere, whence these latter, returning with their natural strength, aided by an acquired momentum, sweep away the invaders and re-enter upon the full discharge of their accustomed duties, restoring harmony and health throughout their entire domain.

To sum up this last part of our subject then, we remark in truth, and in honor to the illustrious HAHNEMANN that all medicines used in the cure of disease, must be selected and applied in accordance with the great natural law "*similia similibus curantur*."

Thus it appears that the Homœopathic art of healing is not one of transcendental origin; or one so wrapt in "spiritual" mysteries that the eye of common science may not scan its parts or trace its harmonious modes of action.

Presenting this theory of the medicinal forces to those familiar with the facts and analogies upon which it is based, we have not deemed it necessary to fortify each position with a multitude of examples: nor, have we endeavored to disprove opposing theories, only so far as it is done in the plainest exhibition of the present. We must say, however, before writing the "finis," that, it is our honest conviction that every year, more of the human family are sent to their "long home," by the misapplication of drugs, than by war, intemperance and famine combined.

HOMŒOPATHY AND ITS OPPONENTS.

(Continued from page 55.)

Dr. Blatchford's address resulted from the *obligation* imposed upon him as President of the Rensselaer County Medical Society.—"At the annual meeting closing the year of his election," it became "*obligatory*" on him "to deliver a *dissertation* on some medical or scientific subject." The doctor had to perform a "*duty*" which we presume he would rather have the execution of than anybody else, so "he concluded to introduce" to the notice of the society "*some few features*" of Homœopathy. His choice was a happy one for him and his colleagues, for, as neither the orator or his audience *knew* anything of the subject, the opportunity was a fit one for a display of that "*pretension to knowledge not possessed*," justly given by Webster as the definition of Quackery. If there even was a display of "*learned lumber*," a mass of words "*signifying nothing*," we have it in this address, "*stale, flat, and unprofitable*."

Its introduction into the State Society's Transactions for the present year, and the space it occupies there (over seventy pages),

are very significant of the utter imbecility of the society itself, and its uselessness for the accomplishment of any good to its members or to the community. What Dr. Blatchford's *intentions* were, we have no means of forming a judgment beyond the evidence embodied in his language. That diffidence and humility, so generally the offspring of true knowledge and clear discernment, and so inconsistent with self-conceit, forms no part of his address, for it is wholly deficient in that candor so open to conviction, and ready to acknowledge and rectify mistakes. Educated in the faith of systems, medicine has but little chance for improvement from him. It might be supposed that an enlarged experience, and the mature exercise of the understanding would remove his prejudices. But a little acquaintance with mankind shows, that early and strong impressions are with the greatest difficulty erased. Every circumstance that tends to confirm them, is readily attended to, while every one that tends to weaken them, is overlooked or ingeniously explained away; so that time most frequently but serves to confirm our errors.

No poorer compliment could have been paid to the intelligence and judgment of his auditors, than is exhibited in every page of Dr. Blatchford's dissertation, yet we may be mistaken in supposing *them* any better informed than *him*, or more willing to hear the truth, than he was to speak it. "When the mind once takes leave of common sense, it is impossible to say *where* it will land." Certainly, it may be in the wilderness of thought arising from the "*baseless fabric of a vision*," generally, however, it takes refuge in the mists and mazes of an obstinate and dogmatic scepticism.

"Homœopathy," says Dr. B., "like most other errors, is found to be an error which is not to be put down by authority. The very attempt would probably only give it currency." Without pausing to question the *grammar* of one of these sentences, we may be permitted to ask, why the "*authority*" of the "*Supreme Court of this State*" was introduced by Dr. B. as having decided (tell us *when?*) "that Homœopathy is Quackery?" Duty "*should* always rise paramount to mere feelings," and, had Dr. B. only paid more regard to the one and less to the other, he would not have made "*such a ninny*" of himself, as to

venture to *illustrate* a subject of which he knew nothing, and therefore could not inform his auditory of anything more than his own ignorance.

"The younger portion of our profession likewise are always desirous of knowing what is thought of any new theory, or new remedy, by those of their brethren who are their superiors in age and experience, and they have a right to such knowledge, derived, I conceive, from the very benevolence of our profession." This was *one* reason why the address was written, and doubtless the *thoughts* of the brethren about the "new theory," were supposed to be of some consequence to "the younger portion of our profession." But we are of opinion *they* care very little about what "Hippocrates or Galen thought," or what Dr. Blatchford and his contemporaries *think* of new theories or new remedies. Facts are wanted, such facts as can be understood as well by the juniors as by their "superiors in age and experience." Thank heaven, the dictatorship of antiquated or modern *authority* is at an end. A sense of doubt has been awakened, and many of the *regular* brethren are trembling before the light of truth. Supported by each other with the vague feeling of strength given by a sense of numbers, and credulously confiding in those who occupy high places, the Profession *fear* to express their alarm, as well as to examine closely into the *cause* of their present union. Will the Profession receive a piece of advice? Make Homœopathy your earnest study, give it your *serious* opposition, put away your indolent and frivolous scepticisms, combat error (*you* call it so) with something more potent than the weapons of sarcasm and ridicule, meet it with *argument* and *knowledge* if you can; shake off your perpetual and degrading bondage, and stand up boldly for the right of free enquiry, private judgment, and a manly personal responsibility.'

There was a time when our fathers might have been satisfied with assertions without reasons, but that time has long since gone by, and we, their children, ask for reasons without assertions. We look in vain for argument or good sense throughout Doctor Blatchford's entire address, yet this gentleman ventured upon the responsible ground of *illustrating* Homœopathy by a process intolerably vain and foolish, a process peculiar too

in the *frequency* of his misrepresentations, and the unwarrantable perversion of the language of its "eminent founder." With the "Organon" before him, from which he has made frequent quotations, it appears to have been impossible for him to avoid mistakes of omission and commission, and these are so *ingeniously* executed, that to call them *dishonest* is perfectly justifiable.

With an appeal to the "*imagination*" of his hearers, they are asked to draw a picture of this lilliputian monster (Homœopathy), strutting forth and demanding notice in all the pompous and inflated magnificence of its "spiritual (dynamic virtual) countervailing agency." True, these *five* words are "Homœopathic language," unmeaning and absurd as Dr. Blatchford has used them, *wholly separated* from their connection with the language preceding and following them in the 16th aphorism of the Organon. Whether true or untrue, it did not suit Dr. B.'s honesty to tell his audience that Hahnemann regarded disease as the result of the spiritual influence of a morbid agent, and, that health could only be restored by means of the "spiritual (dynamic virtual) countervailing agency" of the *suitable medicines acting upon the vital principle*. (See Organon, third American edition, page 101.)

That "ignorance is bliss," we justly charge upon Dr. Blatchford for *not knowing* that Homœopathy was *first introduced* "into this country" in 1825, by *Dr. H. B. Gram*. But as the doctor was happy in his ignorance, it pleased him to quote "a portion of an advertisement" in the Troy Budget, of May 7th, 1842, and to tell us that its author (we should like to hear his *name*) was "the first who introduced this death-appalling system into this country." If this advertising "*doctor*" was not a specimen of the genus "*nincompoop*" we are no judge of humanity, or of the assumed credibility of Dr. Blatchford.

Jumping from page 101 to page 228 of the Organon, we are favored with the quotation of *the first note* to the 293d aphorism, though nothing is said to *indicate* its being such. If this feat "so forcibly reminded" the doctor "of Burns' celebrated poem," it quite as forcibly reminds us of his familiarity with professional unfairness, which is pretty sure to become manifest when arguments are scarce. We rather think the doctor was disposed to

give Hahnemann the "coup-de-grace" in his poetical "altered extract." He who battles against *facts*, however, is sure to get the worst of it sooner or later, and we can assure Dr. Blatchford of one well-known fact, that the French Academy adopted Animal Magnetism by a decided majority, while the same body rejected Homœopathy unanimously. We mention this because the 293d aphorism treats of "*the application of positive and negative mesmerism.*"

"What is Homœopathy?" asks Doctor Blatchford. This question was a poser, it fairly bothered him, he could not "shape its infinity into ideal materiality," because it is "indefinitely intangible." Shade of Hippocrates! what is the meaning of this *Allopathic* language? Ah! we see *what* it means. "For a year past," (says the doctor) "I have paid some little attention to it." (to Homœopathy), "and am prepared to define it: *The Incomprehensible Science of Infinitesimal Medicality.*" A definition this, truly worthy the effort it must have cost Dr. B., and very significant of the mental proclivity which leads such opponents to prefer wit to wisdom, and to "darken counsel by words without knowledge." Cowards always laugh at what they *dare* not know, and frequently pay a heavy penalty for their rash intrusion into a *terra incognita*.

The author of the "*Organon der Heilkunst*" was born at Meissen, in Saxony, in the year 1755, and died in Paris in 1843. Of this learned and distinguished philosopher, worth more than all his predecessors since Deucalion, Dr. Blatchford speaks in terms of reproach and ridicule. He is charged with "ignorance, impudence, arrogance, and presumption," and these charges are uttered against a man who *studied* more years than his calumniator has lived, and had stored up in the depths of his mind the contents of more volumes than his puny assailant ever heard of. Was Hahnemann the man he is represented by Dr. Blatchford? "He was," says a distinguished *Allopathic* writer, "a very extraordinary man—one whose name will descend to posterity as the exclusive excogitator and founder of an original system of medicine, as ingenious as many that preceded it, and destined, probably, to be the remote, if not the immediate cause, of more important fundamental changes in the practice of the healing

art, than have resulted from any promulgated since the days of Galen himself. Hahnemann was undoubtedly a man of genius and a scholar; a man of indefatigable industry, of undaunted energy." How generous, manly, and honorable an opponent is this—how incomparably above the littleness of that "orthodox" zeal, which seeks in defamation to resist the truth, which it has not the magnanimity to own. But "truth is a guest that often brings those who entertain her into trouble." And if the days of persecution are gone by for ever, the world has engines still to assault the man that goes about to mend it.

KOPP.

New-York, July 20, 1851.

(To be continued)

DR. MARCY'S "HOMŒOPATHIC THEORY AND PRACTICE."

Does the Cincinnati Journal of Homœopathy intend to approve Dr. Marcy's work entitled as above? Does that print mean to say that the said work inculcates the true doctrine and practice of Homœopathy, and that it should rank as one of our standard publications? If so, we take leave to dissent. Can a genuine Homœopathic practitioner use that work as a guide in the practice of his art? If so, it puzzles us to know how.

The basis of Dr. Marcy's practice is the pathology of the Allopathic school; and he undertakes virtually to do, what never can be accomplished, to make a theory of disease indicate the theory of cure; he does not, we know, thus state it, but such is the doctrine he inculcates. The stumbling block to the accurate-thinking Allopathists is, how the Homœopathic theory of cure grows out of the Allopathic theory of disease? It is creditable to them that they perceive this striking incongruity. Our school has proclaimed to the world that the two schools hold the same or similar views of disease. Homœopathists agree, and have so published that whatever theory of disease may prevail, the law of cure, or the Homœopathic theory of cure is not in the least disturbed thereby; for the reason, it is not founded on any theory of disease; its laws being distinct and independent. Convince the profession that a theory of disease cannot indicate a true theory of cure, and it is converted to Homœopathy.

The theory of disease has often changed, and doubtless will continue to change; now, once admit that the Homœopathic theory of cure may change to correspond with the changes in the theory of disease, and Homœopathy is virtually abandoned.

A want of correct views of this subject leads to much spurious practical Homœopathy. The moment the practitioner goes beyond the actual phenomena in a disease, visible to his senses, and theorizes, and employs his speculations to aid him in the selection of a medicine, he practically rejects the law of cure. This law can be applied only to actual phenomena in disease; it has nothing to do whatever with speculations upon that phenomena. Hence it is, the genuine Homœopathic practitioner must recur to the *Materia Medica* in every case, whilst the pretended or mistaken Homœopathist forms a theoretical notion to each of the principal remedies, and prescribes accordingly. Such an one seldom consults the *Materia Medica*; he relies chiefly on clinical notes. He says, *Aconite* is the remedy for inflammation and fever; *Phosphorus* for pneumonia; *Hepar Sulphur* and *Spongia* for croup; *Nux vomica* for costiveness; *Belladonna* for scarlet fever; *Mercurius* for dysentery; *Tart. Emetic* for small pox, and so on. In this we have experience without a law, which is the ordinary lay practice, copied from Allopathists, and admitted by every intelligent medical man to be quackery; we have also, prescribing for diseases by their names, not carefully examining each case in all its phenomena as a distinct existence. These two modes, closely allied, are incompatible with the law of cure. Such practitioners generally use large doses of crude drugs, and obtain revulsive effects; that is, disease is diverted from one part of the body to another. This is marked in ordinary Allopathic practice; for example, *Laudanum* or *Opium* injections in dysentery in young children will cause mischief in the brain, inducing convulsions and death. The doctor's certificate reads—"Died of dropsy in the brain."

Another example is, and one, too, met with daily: administer small Allopathic doses of crude mercury to a person predisposed to *tubercular consumption* for a disease that has no known relation in character to that malady, and the revulsive effect is upon the lungs, giving rise to consumption. The same

is true of *Quinine*. We thus illustrate what we mean by revulsive practice. If a drug be strictly Homœopathic, and administered in too large a quantity, either in a single dose or repeated doses, a diversion of diseased action from one part of the body to another will take place, and often, as hundreds of cases show, another and a more formidable disease is developed. These facts may be useful to the large dose Homœopathists.

When we began this article we did not intend to wander so far from the single point. In conclusion we remark, that we do not deem it necessary to review the particular sections of Dr. Marcy's work, such a course might confuse the subject. We do not mean to say, that we disapprove of every thing in the book, quite the contrary; but it is put forward as a standard work of our school, and to test it we have laid down a principle as the best rule, in our opinion, by which to judge such works. The prosperity of Homœopathy, which depends upon her success in the cure of diseases, requires that journalists should honestly express their opinions of works that appear professing to be Homœopathic. Our colleges ought to be more cautious in their text books, for their Homœopathic character will be judged of by the practical works they recommend.

DR. MACLEOD'S LETTER TO PROFESSOR SIMPSON.*

This is a very able letter. Dr. Macleod is one of the Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. As the fellowship is merely honorary, and is a matter of purchase, (the cost is £100,) it follows as a matter of course that those who pay so dearly for this particular whistle put no small value on it. Dr. Macleod does not choose to part with it, and we think he is right.

Dr. Macleod has succinctly shown that in point of opportunities for study, and of a diligent use of these opportunities, of zeal for pathological and physiological investigations, and of a free spirit and manly independence in his search after truths in therapeutics—he is as much entitled to respect as Professor Simpson himself. We have only space for

* A letter to Professor J. Y. Simpson, President of the Royal College of Physicians, &c., &c., &c., concerning the Resolutions recently passed by that body in reference to the Therapeutic Practice, commonly called Homœopathy. By WILLIAM MACLEOD, M D, F. R. C. P. E., &c., &c. London: H. Baillière, Regent Street. Edinburgh: James Nicol, 9 North Bank Street. Glasgow: R. Griffin & Co. 1851.

one quotation from his letter, to which we refer our readers.

"No man, no society at least, seems to me entitled to interfere authoritatively with the honest efforts of others to attain some object of public importance, unless it can be shown either that the same end has already been attained, or that, through some better process, success is at hand. It ought to be held as a canon, that until Science has reached its *ultimate Laws*, it is essentially *free*; so long as the knowledge of these Laws is in the distance, no hand of authority ought to be laid on the Inquirer who is struggling to attain it. Now, Sir, of that Empirical System, which in this country we find pitted against our Rational Therapeutics, I mean to say little more. I have already shown its extraordinary looseness as an empirical scheme; and I have asserted that it is losing ground yearly; I have called attention to the fact, that the use made of it in practice is so various, that, apart from the books in which its formulæ are written, no one can say with certainty what it is. Let me narrate merely one or two circumstances that came under my cognizance years ago, as illustrations; and then I shall ask again, what is really the value of the system, in virtual defence of which our College has felt it necessary to put on at present so hot an antagonism, and to send forth these denunciations. Formerly—I do not know if it is so now—there were several fever wards in the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, of which three Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians had the charge. One physician had the top ward, another the middle ward, and a third the low ward. It happened, that on the same day, three young persons of nearly the same age, ill of typhus fever, were admitted into the hospital. The disease was of equal severity in each, and the stage of complaint the same in all. What was the treatment, think you, pursued in those three cases, by the three Fellows of the College? Of course it should have been the same, at least if the *system* be correct; for the Physicians in question would choose the best. But, Sir, it was not the same. He in the top ward bled his patient with lancet and with leeches. He in the middle ward physicked his patient with drastic purgatives; and if he saw a large, comfortable effect, he gave praise and was content.—He in the low ward, again, gave whiskey, wine, and opiates. What was the result of such deplorable freaks? I refer you to the statistic-book; I have no doubt you will find it there!—In the University formerly, two Professors used to lecture, on alternate days, on clinical medicine. It happened once that each had, at the same time under his care an acute case of *pericarditis*. The Professor, who lectured upon his case on Monday night, said, in substance, as follows:—'Gentlemen,—As to the treatment of this disease, it has been the practice to give large doses of mercury so as to bring the constitution under its

action; and to effect this as rapidly as possible, small quantities of opium are usually combined with it. This practice I, however, believe to be erroneous; for I have observed the progress of the disease unchecked, even during profuse salivation. The most efficient remedy—in fact our *sheet-anchor*—in this disease is *Tartar Emetic*. You will have noticed the large doses I have given of this remedy, and yet the patient seems not to suffer from it. In fact, the constitution in this disease, as in some others, has a remarkable tolerance for *Tartar Emetic*. When the lecture was finished, I left the hall, fancying I had learned some great truth, and knew better than an hour before how to save life. On Wednesday evening, during the same week, in the same hall, and to the same students, the other Professor lectured. The lecture was devoted to the acute case of *pericarditis* under his care in the hospital. After describing the case, and giving a sketch of the character and progress of disease, he spoke in substance as follows:—'Gentlemen,—It is a remarkable thing that there should be any difference in regard to the mode of treatment to be pursued in a disease such as this. I believe it is the Italian and French schools which advocate so very strongly the employment of *Tartar Emetic*; but I would strongly urge you to put no confidence in this remedy; for if you do so you will lean on a broken reed. Our *sheet-anchor* in this disease is *Mercury*; under the action of which you must bring the patient as soon and as freely as you possibly can—even bleeding is of little importance in comparison with the use of *Mercury*. The two combined, i. e., *Mercury* and blood-letting, is of course best, but at all events use *Mercury*, and never trust to *Tartar Emetic*. What effect was produced on the minds of the students by such opposite teachings I cannot say. I can, however, speak for one.—He walked down into the noble quadrangle, in bitterness, and gave involuntary utterance to the words, 'No wonder that Sir James Macintosh forsook the study of medicine.'”—*Hom. Times.*

STATE CONVENTION.

The Homeopathic Physicians of the State of Ohio, will hold a convention in the city of Columbus, on the 23d and 24th of the present month, for the purpose of forming a thorough organization. We have been told that one half of the entire population of Ohio have embraced the Homœopathic practice; and that such is the influence of the public mind in favor of that practice, that Allopathic Physicians find it necessary to be somewhat courteous in their demeanor towards the Homœopathists. Eventually, such will be the case every where in this country.

THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND HOMOEOPATHY.

From the Edinburgh Witness.

DR. WIELOBYCKI TO THE EDITOR OF THE
WITNESS.

SIR,—You will not deny to me, a foreigner, the privilege you allow to your townsmen ; and therefore I must beg of you the indulgence of bearing with my imperfect power of stating my case, reminding you that, though at present this country is at the height of its prosperity, no one knows but that, before long, you or your children may have to plead their cause as exiles in a foreign land, and in a foreign speech.

Although altogether unused to literary warfare, I was, very young, roughly taught the use of arms ; having, when only sixteen years of age, taken a part with the rest of my family in the last (1830-31) war of independence, which terminated so disastrously for my country. Forced to assume a German name, I studied at Cracow, Bonn, and Berlin, and obtained the degree of Doctor in Philosophy at the last of these universities, intending to settle at Cracow ; but I was soon recognised, arrested, and imprisoned. After undergoing many hardships, I escaped, and made my way, through dangers of all kinds, to Hamburgh, where I embarked for Leith, and so got here twelve years ago. I was ignorant then of your language ; but met with great kindness, and attending the University here, took my degree as M.D., and was for two years assistant-surgeon at the now termed Royal Maternity Hospital. At this time, the Homœopathic Dispensary at Stockbridge, conducted by Drs. Black and Russell, was in full operation, and having been treated by this system, when a boy, at my father's in Poland, and having conversed with many distinguished homœopathic practitioners in Germany, I determined to attend it. I met with every facility and encouragement from the physicians, who have been my steady friends all along ; and since then I have been unmolested in my practice. What I sought as an asylum has become a home ; and before I purchased my present house, I obtained letters of naturalization, so that I am now a British subject. My attention being directed to a paragraph in your paper of May 29, and seeing letters from Professor Henderson and Dr. Russell denying the statement therein made, I think it right to make some few observations upon it and the documents published in your paper of May 31.

As I had studied at the College, I supposed there might be some analogy between the University College and the College of Physicians ; but I find this is an entire mistake. The University College, which gave me my diploma, is an Institution for education. The degrees are only given after years of study, and are the reward of industry. But the

College of Physicians seems only to be a sort of trade-guild, such as is common in Germany. For example, the shoemaker, the tailor, and other mechanics, have all certain guild privileges ; and no one is allowed to make shoes or trousers who is not a member of the Guild of the town. This seems the same with this so-called College ; for it requires no examination from its candidates, but only the payment of £100 ; and everybody who has a degree from any British University is eligible. It has a monopoly of the practice of some parts of the Old Town, the Potter-row, and Canon-gate, etc. It is true I find it stated in your paper, that it is composed of the "most educated and most accomplished medical practitioners in Edinburgh ;" but as this statement is made by one of themselves, of course it has no great weight ; for, possibly, the writer's idea of education and accomplishment are of a narrow guild character, not estimated by any European standard. It is certain that the preliminary education required here is far less than what is thought necessary to make an educated or accomplished man in Germany, where Latin is in ordinary use in all clinical teaching ; whereas here a mere smattering of that language, and no knowledge of French or German, is often met with among those who call themselves learned physicians, and, as such, would monopolize the right of practice, and repress the development of any new idea in medicine. It would be presumptuous in me to say what my idea of a highly-educated and accomplished physician was ; but I must say, that if the paragraph referred to be written by such an one, it is very unlike the kind of composition which I was taught on the Continent as characterizing your distinguished men of letters. However, with that I have nothing to do. What passes for talent and accomplishment in one place, may not be so admitted in other places ; and you cannot always expect to have men of European celebrity, such as Cullen and Gregory, presiding over your Colleges. But one statement in this article is untrue, as refers to my practice ; and I wish to give it a public denial. In no case of extreme danger have I ever called in the aid of any member of the College of Physicians during the last eight years of my practice. I don't know who the parties are who have been too often in the habit of doing this. Professor Henderson says it is not he. Dr. Russell says it is not he ; and I say it is not I. I think I may answer for my fellow-countryman Dr. Lyschinski. When in doubt, I have the other homœopathic physicians to apply to, who, besides being educated exactly as the fellows of the College are, have the advantage of a knowledge of the action of Homœopathy, so that there could be no reason for my seeking extra professional assistance. It would be going from the more educated to the less educated ; for, in some parts of Germany, where a person takes his degree of

physician, he is asked if he intends to prosecute Homœopathy; and if he does he has to pass *an additional* examination; so that homœopathic physicians are simply ordinary physicians, whether members of the town corporation or college or not, who, to the usual knowledge required by examining boards, have acquired, either in this country or abroad, the knowledge of a more refined and difficult system of administering drugs. And if the reverse had not been stated in your paper, I should have imagined that they, from this reason, would be the more accomplished, as they are certainly the more educated, of the two.

Perhaps it would prevent future difficulties, if the College would mention what they intend to proscribe next,—whether all who practice mesmerism are to be excommunicated by the Edinburgh Vatican. If the principle of expelling every member who adopts a new method of practice is rigidly enforced, before many years are past all the members may be expelled, one after another, till only one is left to reign in solitary grandeur over the hall and the tea-table. Four fellows are included in this proscription; but the next *auto-da-fé* may be more handsomely celebrated, if the mesmeric mania denounced by some of the members, and courageously propagated by the president and one of the professors, continue to prevail during the dog-days.

I must apologize for this long letter. It is not easy to acquire the art of concise writing; but if I have made myself intelligible, and said nothing offensive or improper, I trust you will excuse the faults, and admit the contradiction into the organ which gave such extensive circulation to a misrepresentation.

I remain, sir, your obedient humble servant,
DIONYSIUS WIELOBYCKI.
Edinburgh, 55, Queen-street,
22d June, 1851.

FAMILIAR EXPLANATIONS, ETC.

(Continued from page 58.)

A. Now, do you suppose, that if I had any disease, that all Homœopathic physicians would treat me in the same way, and give me the same remedies?

B. The principles of Homœopathy being so very plain, it would be impossible for any well-skilled physician to deviate materially from his brother practitioner. There is such a general uniformity in the practice, that should a different medicine be prescribed in some cases, it would, upon critical examination, be found to arise solely from the circumstance of one physician considering certain symptoms more important to treat first than others. There would be no gross contradiction, no discrepancy, no flagrant opposition in their general mode of treatment. A very remarkable anecdote, and much to the point,

is related by Karl Luther, in his work "Allopathy and Homœopathy." It runs thus:—"When, some years ago, a young Homœopathic physician, on his travels, passed the night at the country seat of a nobleman, the latter said to him, that he became sick twenty years ago. He consulted two famous doctors, who disputed about the complaint. He therefore accepted neither the one nor the other, and still less would he take the medicine they prescribed. He then set about to travel, resolved that, if he could find three physicians of the same opinion in respect to his disease, he would submit to their treatment. He consulted all the renowned and some unknown physicians; but could never find any harmony in their opinions. He thus consulted 477 physicians, from whom he obtained 313 diverse opinions. He received 892 different prescriptions, containing altogether 2079 different drugs. After some hesitation, he agreed with the proposal of his guest, to write to 33 Homœopathic physicians, in different places and countries, and to send an exact account of his complaint to each of them. Twenty-two were of the same opinion, both respecting the disease and proposed treatment, and all the twenty-two recommended the same medicament. The nobleman, very much satisfied with this result, addressed himself to the nearest Homœopathic physician for his treatment, and was in a proportionably short time completely cured.

A. Can any reason be assigned in support of the theory, that to cure a disease, a medicine must be given that is capable of producing symptoms similar to those which the disease exhibits?

B. Homœopathic practice is the result of facts and observations. Such and such is done, such and such are the effects. Now facts do not become less facts, because unsupported by theory. Facts are infinitely superior to theory; and it matters just nothing could no reason be advanced to account for the principle of action. Upon reflection, it would seem more reasonable to administer Homœopathic remedies, than medicines that have the power merely to counteract, or set up another and a different class of symptoms. Nature requires assistance, when the body is derauged, in order to restore the natural functions to their proper state, and secure their perfect operation. When the skin, whose office it is to throw off the moisture of the body, is interfered with through cold, the kidneys, or the lungs, or the bowels suffer; that is, these organs are called upon to perform the office that the skin is unable to perform. The symptoms arising from poison, taken into the stomach, as sickness and disordered bowels, are only efforts of nature to expel the injurious matter; and which would be the most prudent method of proceeding, to endeavor to counteract or assist these salutary efforts? We might suppose a medicine administered

capable of allaying the sickness, and alleviating the pain; but the symptoms only would be smothered, the disease or poison would remain to destroy vitality; and if we are not quite sure, that all symptoms of disease are only the visible efforts of nature to restore the disturbed equilibrium, we may reasonably conclude, in the absence of all proof to the contrary, that such is the case; then we at once perceive the reasonableness of using Homœopathic remedies; that is, remedies calculated to assist, not to counteract, the efforts that nature makes to restore the body to health.

A. There appears something rational in such a theory; but can you give any reason in favor of the action of small doses?

B. To give infinitely small doses, that are intended to act upon organs composed of tissues infinitely small and delicate, would appear to be only adhering to the reasonable method of a mechanic, who adapts the size of his instrument to the nature of his work. A watch-maker would not use a carpenter's screw-driver. Powerful, we know, such an instrument would be; powerful to derange and destroy; but quite useless for the delicate work for which the screw-driver was required. Minerals, in the highly attenuated form of vapor, are most injurious; whilst a palpable mass of the same mineral might remain in the stomach without injury. The stomach is not the only channel through which medicine can enter the system. The matter that propagates pestilence, from marshes and stagnant waters, is impalpable and invisible; and yet attacks the human frame without first entering the stomach, to undergo the process of digestion. The more attenuated and subtle the particles of medicine become, the more capable must they be of being absorbed by tissues of a structure beyond conception fine. Air, you know, will pass through pores that water cannot enter. Only rid yourself of the prejudice instilled by custom, that medicine, to be effective, must be eaten and drunk, and you will not think it unreasonable that infinitely delicate structures should be most efficiently operated upon by particles infinitely small.

A. But I have heard that Homœopathic physicians owe their success to the severe regimen imposed on their patients.

B. Homœopathic physicians do just as other physicians would do in this matter; advise their patients to abstain from food that is not nutritious, or easy to digest; but the Homœopathic regimen is not, I should imagine, very severe, when it allows for breakfast,—cocoa, weak black tea, milk, arrow-root, and eggs; and for dinner,—beef; mutton; poultry; fish; plainly cooked game; vegetables, well boiled; plain puddings of bread, rice, sago, tapioca, semolina. You must surely allow that here is much more than sufficient to gratify the dull appetite of any invalid. Pork and young meats, and highly seasoned dishes, are prohibited, and coffee especially forbidden, as, besides being unwholesome, it possesses medici-

nal properties, and operates as an antidote to several Homœopathic remedies. Now, surely, you can never impose so much upon your understanding, as to persuade yourself that diseases can be cured by merely adhering to such a diet or abstaining from such meats.

A. Are there not certain principles taught by Homœopathy as to the cause, effect and cure of disease?

B. Dr. Leon Simon, a celebrated Homœopath in Paris, advances the following three principles on these all important subjects:—

1st. That all the physiological and pathological phenomena observed in the human body, are governed by a force, unknown in its nature, but appreciable by its results; a force, one and indivisible, although multiplied in its manifestations, called the VITAL FORCE.

2d. That every disease is the result of an inharmonious impression made by an external agent on that vital force.

3d. That every mode of treatment ought to have for its object, the modification of the force of which we are speaking, and to bring it back to the normal type, from which it has temporally strayed; and on this single condition it is granted us to obtain radical cures; i. e., to destroy the disease in its cause and in its effect.

A. But how is it that the practitioners under the usual system do not adopt at once this new system, since, according to your showing, it holds out so many superior advantages; for one would suppose that they would naturally enquire into its merits, and investigate the matter?

B. I had almost wished you had not put such a question; for whenever I think upon the matter, my mind is filled with mixed emotions of thankfulness and pity. I cannot, however, help remarking, in answer to your question, that experience and history exhibit the melancholy fact, that naturally, the faculty oppose with all their might the introduction of any fundamental principle, whether it is likely to act in unison with their general practice, or considerably after it. Take, for instance, the reception of Harvey's doctrine and Jenner's practice; it would really seem, that the greater the benefit likely to result from any new discovery the more the opposition is increased. Instead of the profession becoming the benefactors of mankind, in testing the truth of any new doctrine, they become their greatest and cruellest enemies, not merely by remaining themselves in ignorance, but by prejudicing the public mind; presuming that objections, started by a collective body will carry such weight and authority as to thrust on one side individual reason and private judgment.

A. Well, after all your statements, which I must confess upon the whole appear reasonable, I think I should in case of severe illness, submit to the usual medical treatment.

B. Indeed! well, such a decision does not much surprise me; for it requires more pow-

erful argument than human reason can produce to uproot prejudice, or enlighten the understanding. There are, you know to this day, multitudes who would submit to inoculation for the small-pox ; in proof of which, the legislature has been compelled to interfere, by imposing a penalty on any one who should thus attempt to propagate such a foul and loathsome disease ; and you, fascinated with the old plan of "two table-spoonfuls every three hours, and a pill night and morning," would consent, that your stomach should be converted into a repository for drugs; but should you unfortunately become the subject of severe disease, and fail to obtain from your favorite system the anticipated relief, you may perhaps call to mind our present conversation, and be induced to add, in your own person, one more to the many thousands, who having been pronounced incurable by their medical advisers, have, in very despair, sought succor by Homœopathy, and who having been, through its means, restored to health and the enjoyment of life, with gratitude and joy, cease not to honor the name of the great founder of Homœopathy—SAMUEL HAHNEMANN.

CLINICAL OBSERVATIONS WITH GLONOINE.

BY J. R. COXE, JR., M. D., OF PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Case 1.—Mrs. M. J. C., aged 35.—Bilious sanguine temperament; has had four children and four miscarriages. Was attacked at the age of 15 with Congestio ad caput, for which she was treated Allopathically by four of the most distinguished M. D.'s in Philadelphia, for five years, and became, under their treatment, much worse. Bleeding, leeching, cupping, blisters to head, abdomen, back, wrists, and ankles. Salts, Rhubarb, Mercury, Senna, Manna, and other Cathartics.—Bathing, hot and cold shower baths, riding, &c. Very strict diet—nothing allowed for four years save rice, turnips, tea, toast, and cold water. After five years' suffering, was placed under the care of a Homœopath, who, in less than eight months, *almost* effected a radical cure. That is, she had no attacks for several years. In 1840, began to have slight attacks—(had *none* since 1836)—which readily yielded to Acon. 9th and Bell. 12th. In 1847 had two slight attacks. In 1848 two very violent attacks. In 1849 had, prior to June, 3 violent attacks, all of which yielded to Acon. and Bell. On June 26th, 1849, was seized with the most violent attack she had ever experienced. Face was nearly purple. Heat of Sinciput and Vertex, *exceedingly*

great. (I regret I did not ascertain the exact temperature by the thermometer.) Eyes blood-shot and protruding, most excruciating headache. Brain feels twice as heavy as usual, and as if much too large for the skull. Perfect mania, knew no one; repulsed her husband and children; screamed violently; wished to run out of the house; heat of body and extremities, but a trifle greater than natural. Gave at 10h. 14m., A. M., two pellets Glonoine, 3d Potence. The Temporal and Carotid Arteries at the time beating visibly, with great vehemence. Pulse 92, and wiry. Natural pulse 74. At 10h. 19m. very violent exacerbation of all the symptoms. Said her eyes were falling out; screamed wildly; put her hands on her head, and desired her attendants to draw cords around it; jumped out of bed, and before she could be caught made a step or two and fell, saying her knees had given way; was replaced in bed without injury, and at 10h. 24m. was perfectly well; face and head cool; eyes, (though still blood-shot,) not at all painful. Natural faculties in every respect normal; complained only of inability to stand from weakness of knee-joints. (This symptom lasted for one hour and fifteen minutes.) Had no attack, not even a headache, till November 16th, a very slight one, yielded in 5m. to one Pellet of Glonoine, 3d Pot. No aggravation, Pulse 92 and wiry.

Case 2—Deborah Gray, colored cook, 40 years, widow, one child, 15 years of age.—Subject to violent headaches and congestion to brain; eyes very painful and much blood-shot, always had to go to bed, and generally took a cathartic; never relieved in less than twenty-four hours. Had these attacks about every twelve or fifteen days, for many years. I saw her at 4, P. M., July 21st, 1849. Found her lying on a bench in the kitchen, holding her head with both hands; face and head very hot; eyes much inflamed; great giddiness; so much as to prevent her rising; bowels naturally moved in the forenoon; urine very high colored, and deposited a reddish sediment, together with a portion of mucus of a dirty, reddish, yellow tint. The headache and vertigo had commenced at 1, P. M., as usual, and had gone on increasing till it was unbearable. She moaned much, and complained that her brain was forcing itself out in front; that it was too large, and had grown. I gave one Pellet Glo., 3d Pot. In 6 minutes evident aggravation, in 10

minutes well. Had no attack for fourteen weeks. On 6th November, had a slight attack. I dissolved 2 Pellets Glo., 6th Pot., in 4 oz. water. A teaspoonful at once, and directions to take another, if not better, in half an hour. She informed me, next day, she was relieved in 15 minutes, and took no more.

Case 3.—S. A. C., girl of 8 years. Bilious nervous temperament, high-tempered. Has been very healthy since birth, though she has occasional attacks of Epistaxis; perhaps three or four times per annum. Florid discharge, pain in the head, and slight vertigo; occasionally feels a fulness in the head, but it does not prevent her from playing, and she thinks little of it. Has had once or twice within the last year, slight palpitation of heart. When I saw her, (October 7th,) she had violent headache, face considerably flushed, eyes inflamed, pulse 104, full and tense. Gave one Pellet Glo. 9th, no effect. In an hour saw her again: symptoms the same. Gave Ac. and Bell. Well in 6 hours. Three weeks after had a similar attack, except pulse beating only 92, and not full. Gave Glo., 2 Pellets, 12th Pot. Exacerbation in 7 minutes, well in 13 minutes.

Case 4.—L. S., boy of 12 years. Bilious nervous temperament. Slightly lymphatic. Never been sick, except very severe attacks of Croup, and one very severe attack of Encephalitis in his 4th year. Had been, November 2d, playing violently with his companions for some hours, wrestling, jumping, &c. Had come home much over-heated, and in a copious perspiration. Was seized two hours after with violent headache, (never had had one previously,) flushed face, hot head, pulse 106, full and strong. Temporal and Carotid Arteries beating very violently; eyes inflamed and slightly protruding; could not sit up; kept his hands constantly pressed upon his sinciput; said his head felt larger than usual; and his eyes, as if something was pulling them from within, outward. Gave Glo., 1 Pellet, 12th Pot. In 8 minutes very slight exacerbation; in 17, quite well.

Case 5.—B. M. S., aged 32, large full formed man. Bilious sanguine temperament.—Healthy since his 20th year; never had a headache since 1838; has not taken a dose of medicine for five or six years. Had caught a violent cold two days previously, (November 12,) by over-heating himself and standing in a draft of air with his coat off; had

drank large quantities of cold water; bathed his feet several times in hot salt and water; had eaten nothing in twenty-four hours. I found him complaining of violent headache, face much flushed and very hot, whole head extremely hot, eyes much inflamed, and with rather a wild expression, a trembling of the knees and lower extremities. Also, a slight quiver occasionally in his wrists and hands, only now and then perceptible. He said, on my entering, "Do, for Heaven's sake, relieve my headache, that is all I ask." Pulse only 86, but full and tense. I gave Glo., 2 Pellets, 9th Pot. In 9 minutes a trifling exacerbation, scarcely perceptible; in 26 minutes well. He complained all next day of a weakness in his knees and wrists, and said he felt the medicine going into every portion of his brain, and that it seemed to jump from one part to another. That he felt it sting him almost immediately in the right temple, and afterwards in the vertex. He insisted he could feel the effects of the medicine in one minute, and never ceased feeling it till he was well.

I have derived considerable benefit from Glo. in cases of nervous deafness, *I think*; but I am still trying experiments with it, and hope soon to be able to form a definite opinion. In slight paralysis of the auditory nerve, I have derived also some benefit from its exhibition.

DOUBTFUL POLICY.

The Cincinnati Journal of Homœopathy for July, 1851, contains a "fulsome puff" of a Physician of this city, purporting to be copied from the *International Magazine*. We can hardly believe the editors of the Cincinnati Journal so "green" as not to know that such articles in newspapers and magazines are always paid for either in cash or its equivalent. Almost daily in this city, the likeness of some one—generally an obscure person—who wishes to place himself and his business before the public, appears in some of our periodicals, with a brief misrepresented biography, which is the case of the one our colleagues have published. This mode of advertising, heretofore has been confined to politicians seeking office; to rum-sellers beginning business; and to managers of "negro minstrels."

We exceedingly regret that the above journal finds it necessary to seek aid from such advertisements. We hope in this we are mis-

taken ; but it seems to us, that it is due to the Homœopathic school that the matter should be satisfactorily explained. There seems to be, so it strikes our mind, a systematic arrangement with some of our journals and certain Physicians, to carry out that old political policy rule, "you tickle me, and I'll tickle you." The Homœopathist, published at Buffalo, N. Y., is in a strong current which sets in a questionable direction, and if it does not use the oars of truth, and not those weak ones—flattery, may float that print into the still quiet lake of "you tickle me and I'll tickle you." Is it not best to wait until a man is dead, and safe in heaven, before his life is published ?

LOUISVILLE COLLEGE OF HOMEO- PATHIC MEDICINE.

We have received a copy of the Charter of the above-named College ; we are not advised when the trustees intend their institution to go into operation. The following gentlemen compose the Board of Trustees named in the charter :—John H. Harney, Edward Caspari, Levi Tyler, Wm. S. Pilcher, D. H. Monsarrat, James Muir, J. Gilman, Andrew McKinley, Henry Tyler, and John M. Delph.

The College has all the usual powers of such Institutions,—appoint professors, confer degrees, &c. We wish it success.

Ypsilanti, Mich., May 2d, 1851.

DR. KIRBY—DEAR SIR,—Enclosed I send you one dollar as subscription for the coming number of your truly valuable Journal. I think it one of the best auxiliaries of our cause in the field, and ought to receive support from the profession and friends of the cause generally. The old adage, that in union there is strength, is a good one ; and in no way can our union be so perfectly accomplished as by staunch periodicals, well conducted and well supported.

It is little over five years since Homœopathy was first introduced here. Of course it was met by all the opposition which ignorance and knavery could invent ; yet it has advanced steadily, and that too, without being fairly represented by fully qualified Physicians, during part of that time. Here is the greatest trouble. We need more well-educated Physicians at the West.

At present the number in Michigan does not exceed 12 or 15 ; yet there is hardly a village of any importance, so ignorant of our practice as to discourage a Homœopathic Physician from settling.

For the last two years, I have devoted much time to medical study, and practicing occasionally. The past winter I have attended *Lectures* at the Medical Department of the University of Michigan, located at Ann Arbor.—This has been the first session of this department, as, perhaps, you are aware.

About ninety students matriculated, most of whom were in regular attendance ; one other beside myself Homœopathic, and several favorably inclined. Our commencement came off the 16th of April. The graduating class numbered six. The address delivered by Dr. Pitchen, of Detroit, convinced many that "*fools* were not all dead yet."

After dwelling on the 3000 years' experience in Allopathy, he besought the class to beware of innovations. He said, the most to be shunned was Homœopathy, which was fast dying out, and would be remembered in fifty years only as a name, and perhaps sooner. It might be that he should yet linger this side the grave to see its last vestige swept into oblivion.

Then in a grave, desponding mood, he complained that there was a class in the community, of whom they expected better things, who had generally led off after innovations.—He referred to the clergy. Why it was, he could not tell, unless it was because they were so used to contemplating things *spiritual*, and by *faith*, that it was impossible for them to see "only as through a glass dimly."

Perhaps it was because the services of Physicians had been gratuitous to the clergy, at any rate. He recommended that something be done to make them feel the obligation they were under to them. The Professor earnestly recommended the study of the ancient authors, as far back as 1,500 years, as a safe-guard against innovation. Spoke in high terms of the practice of that day, which of course, does not intimate much advancement of recent origin, and indicates the unsettled state of their system.

Our Professors, with one exception, are young men, full of ardor, and determined to maintain the standard of "Old Physic" in this, a public Institution, where all classes have their rights, and ought to have them respected.

During the past winter, the friends of Homœopathy sent numerous petitions to our Legislature, praying for the repeal of laws granting exclusive privileges to the old school, to the exclusion of all others; and also praying for the appointment of a Professorship on Homœopathy.

The law was repealed, but the latter failed.

Hereafter, by a regulation of our new constitution, which goes into operation on and after June next, the subject must come before the board of regents, when we shall still press our rights. How we shall succeed, remains to be determined. You will perceive that here is a great field for labor, and much to labor for.

The position occupied or aimed at by the *old school* here, is eclecticism. They teach that every thing without the wall of Allopathy is quackery; that their system consists of selections from all systems, choosing the good and rejecting the bad.

In this way they fondly hope by the aid of the most inconceivable falsehood and art, to assume all merit to themselves, rob discovery of its laurels, and roll on with their 3,000 year old deformity, crushing all obstacles in their pathway.

But we hope for a better day, and past success warrants us in pressing forward, "*we are not as other men.*" We have a key, a principle; our system is not built on the superstition of past ages, leaving us to drift about upon the ocean of uncertainty hither and thither, having no certain resting place. And long after the croakers of the present day shall have passed from the Alps of their own imagining, shall the name of *Hahnemann* be remembered and revered by the virtuous and good.

F. WOODRUFF.

(For the American Journal of Homœopathy.)

Louisville, Ky., August 4th, 1851.

DR. KIRBY—DEAR SIR,—There seems to be much smoke arising out of a letter from T. J. Griffiths, M. D., of this city, published in your June number. It has all arisen from a spirit of enviousness, and should never have been magnified into a single sentence in your Journal. The public have no interest in it at all. I held a professorship in the same school with Professors Gilman and Jordan, and am acquainted with all the facts. Have been an indifferent spectator, and feel that justice to all parties and to your readers requires a true statement of the case. Had Dr. Griffiths stated in his letter that there had been a total failure to teach and satisfy Homœopathic students in the "Eclectic Medical Institute of Louisville," he would have covered the whole ground, and his letter would have been true in *every* particular, I say in **EVERY** particular, as the following facts abundantly verify. We matriculated for the fall course, I think in all twenty students, mostly Homœopathists; but before the course was half clos'd, the Homœopathists (for reasons that to themselves were satisfactory, but which I forbear to mention now,) had all to a man abandoned the school, although some had paid or secured to be paid for two full courses and some one course of Lectures in advance. Some went to other schools and some to other sources of instruction, and the Eclectics were left to finish (and I am sorry to say it,) their course with four students only. No attempt was made to teach *Homœopathy*, but to teach Homœopathic students in an Eclectic School—There then is the whole gist of the matter. It originated a charter for a Homœopathic College, a jealousy, and a personal quarrel, of which both parties ought to be ashamed.—Professor Gilman has had no difficulty with any person pretending to practice medicine in this city, except Mr. Campbell and Professor Jordan; and a personal attack upon him was entirely gratuitous, and as things stand here, in very bad taste.

I hope this explanation will be satisfactory, but if it is not, I can say more on the subject, at any time.

W. W. WATTERS, M. D.,

Formerly Professor of Legal Medicine, Toxicology, and Natural History, in the Eclectic Medical Institution of Louisville, Ky.

We give place to the above letter hoping the parties interested may conclude to "bury the hatchet," at least so far as the columns of this Journal are concerned. It was not our intention to be mixed up with the matter; and what we said in our last number, under the head of "AN EXPLANATION," was intended as a sort of a severe, good-natured reproof to the parties, which, perhaps, it

RETRIBUTION.—Divine retribution always belongs to eternity, and is distant; *human* retribution is uncertain, depending upon discovery, and other fortuitous circumstances; but *moral* retribution is as sure as life, as sure as death, as sure as the sin out of whose bosom it springs—as natural as the pain that follows the contact of fire. Human and legal retribution we may elude by concealment or flight; divine retribution we may avert by a timely repentance; but moral retribution we must suffer—and that, not by the arbitrary sentence of a despot, but by the natural action of an equitable law, old as eternity—immutable as God.—*Family Friend.*

was not our province to administer; but it is done, and no one seriously wounded. And now, if our Louisville friends will have the kindness to let us off, they will oblige us, and not unlikely, our readers also.

We have received from Dr. Richardson,—too late for this number,—the proceedings of the Western N. Y. Homœopathic Society.

The BRITISH JOURNAL OF HOMOEOPATHY for July, 1851, (English edition,) is upon our table. An interesting number.

The NORTH AMERICAN HOMOEOPATHIC JOURNAL for August, 1851, is received. We have not had time to examine it. Also, The CINCINNATI JOURNAL OF HOMOEOPATHY for August.

NEW PROPOSITION.

As we desire to extend the circulation of this Journal as far as possible, we have concluded to make the following proposition to physicians and the friends of Homœopathy, which we hope will be responded to without delay, viz.:—We will send eight copies to one Post office for five dollars (\$5); twenty copies for ten dollars (\$10); fifty copies for twenty dollars (\$20), cash in advance.

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THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."

VOL. 6.

NEW-YORK, NOVEMBER, 1851.

NO. 7.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

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American Journal of Homœopathy.

NEW-YORK, NOVEMBER, 1851.

HOMŒOPATHY AND ITS OPPONENTS.

Continued from p. 70.

After stating that "Hahnemann was born in Upper Saxony, in 1755," Dr. Blatchford quotes from the *preface* of the *Organon*, what he is pleased to term the "circumstance" of the "discovery" of Homœopathy. True to that "psychological infirmity" which too often leads much wiser men to deviate from the line of truth in speaking of what they dislike, Dr. Blatchford *omits* or *adds* to his quotations just so much as might lessen or remove an objection, and, with a boldness peculiar to Allopathic essayists, has recourse to denials or affirmations regarding points on which he is not entitled to offer an opinion, because he *knows* nothing about them.

We should much rather have done honor to Dr. Blatchford for his candor and integrity in assailing Homœopathy, than be compelled to say of him and his dissertation, that the one is worthy of the other; both are ludicrous enough,

even painfully so when contemplated as affording any evidence of the qualifications of the Doctor to do justice to those subjects "which demand for their handling the stern logic of a masculine mind." Maudlin wit can never become convincing, though it may amuse the multitude of listeners to that species of logic which seeks to captivate their thoughts by issues and reckless statements, which they are not at all likely to prove or investigate for themselves.

In 1790, Hahnemann, then in his forty-fifth year, was engaged in translating Cullen's *Materia Medica* into German. The author had made an attempt to explain the *modus operandi* of the Peruvian bark in the cure of intermittent fever, but the explanation not satisfying Hahnemann, he resolved to *test* its action in his own person,—*being at the time in perfect health*. Having taken the bark for several days in full doses, he became affected with symptoms resembling those of ague. The similarity was striking, and hence there "arose in his mind a conception of the great truth," not alone applicable to the bark, but to *all other* medicaments, that their power to *cure* natural disease depended on their power to excite in the healthy body a disease *similar* in its symptoms to the natural one. What there is in a statement like this, to justify or call for the display of wit, we cannot for the life of us discover, but Dr. Blatchford could not help complaining, that he was not told "how this factious intermittent was cured." "A little bark, then, (says he) produces a disease which a little *more* will cure." Now it is *remarkable* that Dr. Blatchford should himself say a few lines further on, that "*as one is not very likely to form correct notions of a subject he does not admire*," he cannot be "*an impartial observer of the facts and opinions he is called upon to review*;" therefore, the Doctor by his

own declaration, has given himself the *coup de grâce*, and fully proved his "illustrations" of Homœopathy to be not only puerile and foolish, but utterly unworthy of him if he would be thought an "impartial observer of the facts and opinions" of other men.

"As every man (says the Doctor) has a right to name his offspring to suit his own fancy, so Hahnemann, in the legitimate exercise of this right, named his system Homœopathy, after two Greek words signifying analogous suffering, or, according to an ancient adage, the hair of the same dog will cure the bite." Why all this rigmarole about the name, when it would have answered better and been more intelligible to have given the derivation at once, and admitted its appropriateness? Why but to gratify Dr. Blatchford's vanity in impressing his hearers with a sense of his facetious powers?

We are gravely informed, that Hahnemann—"pretended to discover" the great law "similia similibus curantur." This charge is as false as it is ungenerous and unmanly, for Hahnemann took especial care to establish the fact, that the truths of Homœopathy were known to and proclaimed by *Bæulduc*, *De-tharding*, *Bertholon*, *Thoury*, *Stoerck*, and *Stahl*, and he quotes passages from each of these writers, expressly to free himself "from a reproach of having passed them over in silence, to arrogate to myself the merit of the discovery." This specimen of Dr. Blatchford's veracity, is clearly established—see note, page 91 *Organon*, third American Edition.

With a show of honesty quite captivating, if not convincing, the attempt is made by numerous quotations, to place Hahnemann in a false and contemptible position. Now nothing is easier than to do this with any author, and to his disadvantage, for mutilated sentences and paragraphs in every case but poorly illustrate an author's meaning when *fairly* given; how much the more then are they valueless in determining this point, when there is a manifest design to omit or add to the isolated language of the original.

At pages 118, 119, and 120, of the *Organon*, Hahnemann has given numerous "examples of the cure of chronic diseases by the accidental accession of another disease, similar and more intense." These, he says, all prove, "that neither the efforts of nature, nor the skill of the physician, have ever been able to

cure a disease by dissimilar morbific power, whatever energy the *latter* may have possessed; also, that a cure is not to be obtained but by a morbific power capable of producing *symptoms that are similar, and, at the same time, a little stronger*. The cause of this rests with the eternal and irrevocable law of nature, which was hitherto not understood." This is Hahnemann's *exact* language, and its meaning is sufficiently obvious. Whatever energy a *dissimilar* morbific power may possess, it *cannot* cure disease, though directed by the efforts of nature or the skill of the physician, because the *law of nature (similia similibus)* opposes it. But it did not suit Dr. Blatchford to refer to Hahnemann's numerous *examples* is proof of his statements, he preferred making his quotation thus—"Neither the efforts of nature nor the skill of the physician *has* ever been able to cure a disease by a dissimilar morbific power, whatever energy *they* may have possessed; also, that a cure is not to be obtained but by a morbific power capable of producing symptoms that are similar, and at the same time a little stronger;" adding, in *explanation* of the paragraph, the following specimen of his *ingenuity*,—"that is, I presume, *similia similibus*, only a little stronger; if you burn your finger and desire to cure it quick, you must burn it deeper, and if you freeze your limbs, you will cure them by freezing them a little harder!" To this extent, and no more, has Dr. B. a *knowledge* of Homœopathy, and he is welcome to the inference in his "illustrations." The reader will not fail to perceive, that the words "has" and "they," are substituted for "have" and "latter," and, that in quoting the sentence—"The cause of this rests with the eternal" &c. the Doctor has it—"The cause of this *wonderful phenomenon* rests," &c.—The two words "*wonderful phenomenon*" being entirely his own.

Selecting the *three* terminating lines of the 53d aphorism, and not even quoting *them* correctly, the Doctor goes back to the 24th, and takes the first *two* lines, then the first *three* of the 26th, and, with a sweeping retrograde leap, we find him again on the 59th page extracting a few lines more, and winding up by taking *three* lines in addition, from a note on page 106, all of which is done to amuse his listeners, and with the *design* of making them appear consecutive. It is in this way that we are treated with an apparent show of fairness, a

mere flimsy veil to cover up the nakedness of a systematic fraud, easily detected on investigation, but of sufficient tenuity for the audience with whom the Doctor had to deal.

In the 25th aphorism, Hahnemann thus speaks:—"Plain experience, an infallible oracle in the art of healing, proves to us, in every careful experiment, that the particular medicine whose action upon persons in health produces the greatest number of symptoms resembling those of the disease which it is intended to cure, possesses also, in reality (when administered in convenient doses,) the power of suppressing, in a radical, prompt, and permanent manner, the totality of these morbid symptoms—that is to say, the whole of the existing disease; it also teaches us, that all medicines cure the diseases whose symptoms approach nearest to their own, and, that among the latter, none admit of exception."

Now for Dr. Blatchford's quotation. He begins with the words "Plain experience," and what then? Why then adds the *whole note* at the bottom of the page, and omits every line in the aphorism as we have given it above.

KOPP.

[To be Continued.]

A CASE.

Dr. Strong has an interesting article on the Vital Principle, in the *Homœopathic Times*, from which we extract the following case:—

"A gentleman's cook, single, about five-and-thirty years of age, consulted me on the 5th of March, 1851, for a cancer of the left breast, which had been condemned to excision. For the last twelve months she had noticed a lump in the bosom near the nipple, where she once had an abscess. On examination, three tumors can be distinctly felt, nearly united together, hard, almost stony; flat, and not painful on handling. On a change of weather it burns and feels inflamed. It is worse and swells at the period. She has lost much flesh, and become extremely weak; complexion dirty-looking. Bowels confined. Catamenia every three weeks, scanty. For two or three years past has experienced a difficulty in swallowing, about the back of the tongue. She cannot swallow meat, and sometimes cannot drink; can eat dry bread best; a sour taste in the morning. Legs and knees ache by day.

Of such a case, what satisfactory diagnosis could be made? In what school of medicine is taught the connection of symptoms such as are here detailed? Yet they must all arise from *one* disease; it is *one* affection that we have before us, not a complication of two or

three maladies, if there be truth in Hunter's axiom. What has induration of the mamma to do with the throat? What has difficulty of swallowing in common with an aching of the legs and knees? The patient meanwhile is particularly anxious to know the *name* of her complaint. What if, notwithstanding so many months of suffering, there be *no organic seat* of disease! what if the organs implicated, sympathise not with each other, as heretofore taught, through nerve and ganglion and absorvents, but through the vital force that animates them, whose tale of woe they thus tell, whose sufferings are expressed and manifested in this way! The wonderful provings instituted by Hahnemann disclose sympathetic relations upon healthy persons, which in natural disease the old school, regardless of their conflicting and even contradictory theories, would denominate "a complication of affections." According to Boenninghausen, there is one drug which covers all the symptoms, those, namely, of the pharynx, mamma, uterus, bowels, legs, complexion, and nutrition; she therefore had given to her *Arsenic*, two globules of the 30th dilution in six parts, one each morning.

March 19th. A little pain in the bosom, which was rather more swelled. Bowels confined, only one motion since the 5th. She can swallow better, and feels her throat somewhat sore. *Nux vom.*, three drops, 12th dilution, a sixth part every eight hours until the bowels are relieved.

24th. Medicine makes the head ache still; a very scanty motion on the 21st; before that no passage for fourteen days. Appetite has improved. Catamenia lasted two full days. She has gained flesh, and has much less burning in the mamma; at the last period it was swollen only, not painful. Legs and knees are very much better. Can drink much better, but cannot yet swallow meat; has experienced an itching eruption, now subsided. Repeat *Ars.*, two globules, 30th dilution, in six portions as before.

April 14th. Bowels are quite regular now daily. Appetite good, but thirst all day, and the mouth feels hot. Catamenia again at three weeks, but lasting four days. Bosom feels better, pain only occasionally, and not severe; she can now swallow food or liquids pretty well; much itching about the trunk. On the chin there is still an eruption of papulae. The head and eyes have been giddy and much tired. *Sacch.*

28th. Examination. No tumors to be felt in the bosom; the gland feels almost quite natural to the touch. Can eat meat now if cut small; some irritation still about her, and some giddiness.

A perfect cure of this ugly-looking case was thus effected in two months, by means of an almost incalculable small amount of mineral matter; and surely no one can peruse the details, without admitting how much better the

doctrine taught by Hahnemann accords with the facts—*i. e.*, with the morbid symptoms, with the small bulk of the remedy, with its provings, with the cure—than any other scheme which has yet been brought before the world.

In conclusion we may observe, that Hahnemann's theory can now no longer be denounced as visionary or as unsound; its supporters are too numerous for the one, and the success of his system of cure too well admitted for the other. Physiologists indeed disregard or shun the question of the vital principle; pathologists differ widely amongst themselves respecting its very existence, let alone its being the seat of disease; but all who have been cured by a course of homœopathic medicines, and all who have scientifically proved these medicines on their own bodies, are convinced of the truth of Hahnemann's assertion, by that inward argument from which there is no appeal—the testimony of their own sensations."

CHLOROFORM AND DEATH.

"We have now before us a full and very particular account of all the circumstances that attended the death of a young married lady in this city, in June, 1850, in the Second Avenue. This death was accomplished in the 'regular' way, by the mal-administration, as the husband charges, of a large quantity of laudanum, followed, an hour afterwards, by a liberal administration of chloroform, against the express wish of the unhappy lady. The administration of this chloroform was followed by instant death. According to the evidence of one of the nurses, death followed the application of the chloroform as suddenly as if it had been caused by a stroke of lightning.

When the attention of this M. D. was called to the altered appearance of his unfortunate patient by one of her nurses, he became alarmed—as well he might—and he endeavored to revive her by inflating her lungs; but it was all in vain. He then told the most experienced of the nurses that she had better inform the husband of the death. The nurse replied, 'You had better do it yourself, doctor, as you have killed her.'

The deceased had given birth to a child some time before her death, and had been attacked with puerperal fever. She was attended for this by the family physician; then came a consulting physician, and then came another consulting physician—the laudanum and chloroform M. D. The latter behaved with gross ingratitude to his brother M. D.'s

in disposing of their joint patient so soon and so suddenly.

The suddenness of the death, taken in connection with the fact that a day or two before it took place all three of the M. D.'s had pronounced their patient to be convalescent, aroused the suspicions of the bereaved husband, so he caused a post-mortem examination to be made of the body of his wife, in the presence of eight members of the regular faculty—some of them are well known to the community.

The laudanum and chloroform M. D. attributed the death to fusion of the brain, but both his associate M. D.'s were of opinion that this could not be so, and their opinion was sustained by the results of the post-mortem examination. By that examination it appeared that the deceased's brain—to use the language of one of the examining surgeons—was 'perfectly beautiful,' and it was almost the unanimous opinion that 'there was no disease about or in the body of the deceased in any form, inconsistent with health, from the crown of the head to the sole of the foot.' When these startling facts came out, one of the examining surgeons called aside the family physician of the deceased, and said to him: '*You must not push Dr. ——— to the wall—we must stick to the cloth:*'

If there is to be any killing at all, it is quite right that it should be done in the regular way.

If all the circumstances of this case be as they are sworn to be, it seems to us that it is one that should have awakened the attention of the Coroner, and that of the District Attorney, Mr. N. B. Blunt.

But as this unhappy lady's death was quite *en règle*—as it was brought about in a regular way—and as it happened—we shall not at present say how—in the presence of a regular and most respectable practitioner, why it would be most wicked and disreputable, and quite out of the fashion, to make any very great stir about it. One living ass is better than two dead lions.

However, as we are not at all thin in the region of the cuticle, we shall recur to this case. It is one that touches every family nearly. Death is sudden and sure enough, and it is therefore quite unnecessary that we should invite him and pay him to come to our very hearths, to desolate them.

There is much need of a sweeping medical reform in this city, as we have endeavored to prove, and not in vain, we trust, again and again, in these columns. We shall not abandon the subject till that reform is accomplished, or at least commenced."

The above article was sent to us by one of our most respectable merchants, who vouches for its truth. It is further stated that all the facts, as well as others not mentioned, were proved by affidavits taken at the time.

It is not our purpose to deal in personalities, for "every tub must stand on its own bottom," whether it be pine, oak or cedar. Nothing is gained by ridiculing persons before the public. We have seen obscure, ignorant and dishonest persons in the medical profession, elevated to the confidence of a portion of the public by censure and ridicule.

The unfortunate case which is the occasion of these remarks, should not be set down to the prejudice of the physicians engaged in it; for they are allopathists, and as such, did their duty, and employed the latest discovered and most highly approved mode of treatment of their school; and had the *Coroner* held an inquest, the conduct of the "M. D." and all others concerned in the case, would have been sustained by perhaps 500 allopaths in this city. No one believes that there was an intention to kill that lady, and yet no one doubts that the treatment accelerated her death, except allopathic physicians, who, in the eye of the law, never kill any body.

As we are no longer acknowledged a member of the allopathic school, we are able to view things in a different light from those who are in close communion with that school.

The treatment of the case was pernicious, but differs from thousands of others in this city, only in the very quick effect of the means employed; for these are approximating the grave, by means of allopathic medication, as surely, and yet unnoticed, because slower in their progress.—EDITOR.

LAUGHTER.

Laughter is a most healthful exertion; it is one of the greatest helps to digestion with which I am acquainted; and the custom prevalent among our forefathers, of exciting it at table by jesters and buffoons, was founded on true medical principles.—*Professor Hufeland.*

EXTRACT FROM REV. T. R. EVEREST'S LETTER TO DR. ROSE CORMACK.

Dr. Cormack is a violent opposer of Homœopathy; and for some things which he wrote and published, Mr. Everest addressed him a letter, from which we extract the following, viz.:

"Once upon a time, it is said, there lived in Dorsetshire an eccentric old farmer whose name was Cawse. The rooks used to give the old man a great deal of annoyance, alighting on his wheat-fields and committing great havoc there; but he was rather indolent, and bore the annoyance as patiently as he could for some time. At last, one morning the rooks had gone what the Irish call "beyant the beyant," and Farmer Cawse could stand it no longer; so he seized an old gun, crept slyly along the hedge, and fired, not at any individual among them, for he was a humane man, but 'promiscuously into the lot,' as he said. The rooks rose as one bird cawing very loudly, on which the farmer was heard to say with great exultation, 'Ah! Cawse! Cawse! indeed. Thee mayst call me what names thee do plaze, thee mischievous rascals, it do my heart good to hear thee, vor I do learn vrom thy chattering as I have peppered zum on ye, and vrightened all the rest.'

"You will say, perhaps, Sir, that the story is a stupid one and quite out of place here. It may be so; I will not defend it. You say I am everything that is base and bad and vile and shocking. I am very sorry for it and hope I may mend by and by. You say the homœopathic doctors are quacks and impostors. Let it be granted. And you say that all the archbishops, bishops, peers, members of parliament, clergy, and in short, all those who believe in Homœopathy—who you tell us are many in number—are knaves and fools. Very well, Sir. I will concede to you, if you like, that all those children born into the world who may be suspected by their mothers' vigilant obstetric attendants of any leaning to Homœopathy in the *paulo post futurum* state, should have their necks twisted in infancy, so that Allopathy may have a chance of being left at peace. But we cannot bring about this same desirable wringing of necks. And there is a great Public which cares neither for you nor me and merely says, when it reads your well-flavored Philippic, 'Pooh! it's only another case of Farmer Cawse! the doctors abusing those who have been peppering and frightening them.' Don't you think, Sir, you would produce more effect on this great inert Public, if, instead of calling me names, you were to do that which you have been taunted, provoked, and dared to do, over and over again for forty years past, and which I now again dare you to do, that is, publish an account of the experiments you have made with homœopathic medicines on homœopathic principles?"

"Such is your system, Sir. It stands like a milking-stool, on three legs; each leg is a mere theory, and a mistake in any one of your theories upsets the poor patient. Hahnemann followed a different plan. He collected the changes of which a patient complained and chose that agent which produced similar changes in the healthy. If the doctor knows what that is, and will apply it in right doses, he has done all that medicine can be made to do. You have no law of cure at all. Tom told Dick, who handed it over to Harry, that cod-liver oil was good in phthisis! Jenkins informed Robinson, who told it to Brown, that he had heard from the celebrated Stiggins, that dandelion was a fine thing in dyspepsia! How can you go to sleep, Dr. Rose Cormack, with such a miserable assortment of rubbish in your head? Is it in such terms as these that Nature's laws are enunciated?

"The consequences of all these childish hypotheses are most terrible. Medicine, or treatment, which has reference to an imaginary state, and it is imagined will be serviceable in that imaginary state, is prescribed in sad reality. Symptoms caused by that treatment ensue; the patient gets an accession of suffering; he sees and knows nothing of that magic relief so often communicated instantaneously by dynamic remedies when properly selected. No one can distinguish between the symptoms caused by disease and the symptoms caused by the doctor's treatment; the patient dies, or recovers after a long convalescence. But the worst part of the story is quite unknown, which is this, that a treatment which has no reference to the complaint, always sows the seeds of future malady; and he who might have passed his life without any need of medical aid if he had never called in a doctor, having once had the misfortune to do so, imbibes disease from those hands at which he sought cure, and must call in a doctor again at some future day.

"You seem to imagine, Sir, that it is a sufficient answer to all these things to abuse me and call me naughty names. I tell you of facts. Try them if you like, and give us the results. But how are these facts altered by calling him who speaks of them a naughty name? Do you think, Sir, that by pelting with mud him who is sowing good seed, you can prevent that seed from germinating?

"You *dare* do it, I have no doubt; indeed, why should you not? nobody minds your naughty names; the humble individual who is now addressing you the least of all. But there is one thing you dare not do; that is, make experiments to disprove Hahnemann's facts and deductions, and publish the results. THAT you dare no more try than you dare try conclusions with a locomotive.

"With all the rhetoric thou hast thou canst not so recall him but he will persevere in his dotage. It is

'Amabilis insanias et mentis gratissimus error.' Tell him what the event will be—no persuasion

will take place, no counsel, say what thou canst. Demonstrate—he is irrefragable still: bray him in a mortar, he will be the same; shew him his several follies and absurd fopperies; force him to say *veris vincor*, make it as clear as the sun, he will err still. He says, 'I will do as I have done, as my predecessors have done, and as my friends now do.' Say now, are these men mad, or no? Heus, age, responde? Are they ridiculous? Are they *sanae mentis*? Have they common sense?—BURTON, *Anatomy of Melancholy*."

ALEXIS EUSTAPHIEVE, Esq., of this city, in a note to us, remarks: "I see in your Journal two cases of Hydrophobia reported favorably, and I am naturally very anxious to know whether *Hydrophobin* has been employed as a remedy, for, as you well know, I consider it as an effectual antidote, and have always regretted and wondered why you have never taken it up and held it as such to public attention, at least as a specific worth trying."

Vaccine virus when triturated in sugar of milk to the third potency, has been found efficacious in some cases of *Small Pox*, and we know no reason why *Hydrophobin*, prepared as medicines usually are for Homœopathic practice, might not be effectual in *Hydrophobia* as our friend has zealously asserted, for many years. We have never had an opportunity of testing it, and we do not know of any one who has administered it in that fearful malady.—*Ed.*

OPPOSITION TO HOMŒOPATHISTS IN ENGLAND.

A meeting of practitioners of Homœopathy was held in Manchester, England, on Thursday, September 25th, 1851, "for the purpose of taking steps to second the efforts now making, in London, to procure a charter of incorporation, and thus to put the homœopathists on the same footing as the colleges of physicians and surgeons, in respect to granting diplomas."

We quote, as reported in the Homœopathic Times, the speeches of Dr. Walker and Mr. Henry Dixon.

The former said: "As a member of the medical profession, it is, I confess, peculiarly painful to me, to find that a question which ought, by our opponents, to have been treated on purely professional and scientific grounds, should have been by them thrown *extra*

limits. It is not, as a general rule, the mode in which any scientific question should be discussed, nor is it, perhaps, the manner in which any great scientific truth can be settled; but as the feeling of the allopathists is so decidedly that of a desire to extinguish us—to lop us off as dead branches from the tree of legitimate medicine, it behoves us to throw aside all rules of professional etiquette, conventional formulæ, etc., which restrict professional men in their intercourse, and to fall back upon that great moral code, which, so long as we do no evil, not only justifies but moves and pushes us on to defend our principles and ourselves, when unjustly and cruelly attacked. The words have gone forth from their colleges and associations, to the effect that we have forfeited our position as men of science and morality, that we are ignominious and degraded, and that we should be scouted as the Pariahs, not only of medicine, but of society itself. All this, were it confined to mere words, might be borne, and, like any other *brutum fulmen*, treated only with contempt: but when to the hard words, which break no bones, are added acts and deeds that strike at the right of private judgment in medical matters, it is high time we should declare that we have rights and opinions which, if attacked, we are prepared to uphold and defend. But we are prepared to go even further than this, and say to our adversaries, 'If you possess rights which you abuse, and employ the circumstances which your position gives you to oppress us, we shall cease to be simply defensive, and put ourselves into an aggressive shape, and with more energy than you have, and equally determined with you, not cease our active warfare, nor rest satisfied until we have destroyed your effete institutions, encumbered with the relics of a barbarous age, and eradicated all your old world's notions and murderous ideas with respect to the treatment of disease.' Such is the position which I, as an individual, am prepared to take in the coming conflict of opinions, and, on looking around me at the medical gentlemen here present, I venture to say that they hold the same opinion with myself, and are ready, heart and hand, to unite not only in the dissemination of homœopathic doctrines, but in a bold effort to destroy those bodies whose conduct but too well justifies the remark of an eminent writer, that they are but the black rocks in the river, which obstruct the stream, move not, but show by the surging of the waters around which way the current of knowledge tends. It is clear that the public, as a body, have no guarantee of even a minimum amount of medical knowledge in a man to practise his profession, unless he be possessed of a diploma or licence from one of the seventeen corporate bodies. A demand at present exists, everywhere, for practitioners who practise in accordance with the principles inculcated by Hahnemann. The Universities have set their faces against conferring their diplomas, unless the applicant shall pledge himself not to practise Homœo-

pathy. Various bodies are taking legal advice as to how they may deprive those already holding them, of their diplomas. Medicine is an honorable profession, which many, who are unworthy, strive to enter into. Unless some remedy be devised, the demand for practitioners, exceeding the supply of those qualified, will lead men of no medical attainments at all, to seek to creep into the ranks of the profession, whose excuse will be, and none can contradict them, that they have been refused admission in consequence of their homœopathic opinions, and thus obtaining the sympathy of simple individuals, will bring disgrace upon the cause of Homœopathy, and, from their ignorance, do serious mischief to those who put themselves under their care. It appears to me, to obviate this state of things, which must inevitably happen, that the homœopathists should either obtain a royal charter or a legal enactment to put them on a level, in the eyes of the public, with their allopathic enemies. Such a charter would not only secure us against the intrusion of illiterate and designing men, but it would do more—it would show that the individual possessed, besides the knowledge of the ordinary modes of treating disease, a correct acquaintance of the great therapeutic principle of "*similia similibus curantur*" in disease. For even now, with the diploma of our adversaries, the mere fact of a physician saying, 'I believe in the truth of Homœopathy,' is no proof that he is able to practise it. Such a college as the charter or enactment would give us, would thus secure to us a constant supply of well-qualified, enthusiastic young men, to whom we, the 150 or 160 now existing, might safely leave the Cause for the benefit and instruction of the next generation. In conclusion, to my medical friends now present I would say, that whatever the amount of provocation we may receive from those in this town, we should never forget that we are men of education, of breeding, and representatives of a great principle—that we are gentlemen, and that we leave to the leading physician of Manchester and his worthy *confrères* the congenial task of vulgar abuse and impotent reviling."

Mr. Dixon said: "He is deeply indebted in his own person to Homœopathy for the removal of a disease of four years' standing, and being convinced of its truthfulness by six years' study, together with the experience he had had in the Dispensary in Manchester, had much pleasure in seconding the resolution. He did not regret the course the allopathists were taking—it was only the natural one, if Homœopathy was true, for error invariably sought to crush truth, if it could not be got rid of in any other way. This dispute was one of some moment to the old practitioners, for the homœopathists were curing patients whom they had had long under hand, and thus were taking away the confidence which hitherto had been placed in them."

CORRESPONDENCE.

DR. KIRBY—Dear Sir,

The question is often asked, why it is that Homœopathic physicians do not notice the opposition of a certain Professor of this city, who makes use of every opportunity to vilify them and their mode of practice. The causes should be obvious to those of understanding.

Firstly, the Professor has little else to do. Secondly, he has never, in his life, offered an argument, either against the practitioners or the system. Thirdly, his remarks in relation thereto have always been of the lowest order, funny, it is true, and calculated to make fools laugh; but with the sensible and intelligent, they have produced disgust, and distrust of the Professor's intentions; for when an individual, in opposition, offers ridicule and misrepresentation, the inference is rational, that he has nothing substantial to substitute. At one time he will speak of a Homœopathist as a "lean chap carrying his wardrobe in a pocket handkerchief, and his box of medicines in his vest pocket." At another time he will speak of the system in the language of the Cobbler of Agawam, "as the gizzard of a trifle." And, notwithstanding its insignificance, he makes use of the most important opportunities of his life to ridicule and misrepresent the practitioner and the system. In every lecture which he delivers, this subject is a part of his theme; and having found out his own forte, uses these occasions to give to the public a specimen of his professional erudition. I do not know who the "lean chap" can be to whom he refers, but if there is such an one, he might say to the distinguished Professor, that were it not for the fact of his "having had a father before him," his own wardrobe would, at this time, have been very small; and he might tell him that if he had had the advantage of being an A.M. as well as an M.D., and the privilege to lecture from the chair of an university, he would employ his time and talents to better purposes. To give an idea of the Professor's manner of *investigating* a proposed science, it is only necessary to refer to one of his grand efforts in opposition to mesmerism, which he exhibited to the citizens of Baltimore a few years ago. A committee was formed of several gentlemen to examine into and report upon the claims of mesmerism. A public exhibition was held, and the Professor,

associated with another distinguished professor, figured most conspicuously in the investigation. The Professor introduced a negro barber boy, who appeared to be as apt as he was himself, whom he tutored for the occasion in the business of deception. The boy performed his part well, showing his aptitude for juggling, and that he was at least equal to his teacher. The two professed mesmerizers, who were at that time lecturing and experimenting, had too much honesty themselves to suspect the Professor of collusion with the negro, and pronounced him, the boy, a fair subject for experiment. The boy was mesmerized, at least to appearance, and acted as thoroughly as though he were a bona fide sleeping subject. After showing some most astonishing developments in clairvoyance, &c., and having apparently satisfied every one of the truth of mesmerism, clairvoyance, &c., he was asked by the Professor to stand up, open his eyes, and state to the audience whether or not he had been asleep. And the boy obeyed and declared he had not, but that he had feigned everything which he did. The Professor thereupon declared that mesmerism was a mere imposture, and inferred or implied that all were dishonest who proclaimed to the contrary. He certainly proved, what everybody before knew, that it would be easy to deceive a credulous and unsuspecting public, when the operators had the ability to impose, which the Professor and his barber boy excelled in.

As a simile to this, let me state a similar performance by another wag, for a similar object. This wag offered to prove, by a large wager, that the science of medicine was a humbug, and its practitioners knowing impostors. He obtained the services of a Hibernian, whom he instructed to feign sickness, go to bed, and send for the leading physician in the place. His tongue was previously whitened with a coat of chalk, and he was to complain of a very severe pain about the chest, heart, &c., &c. The doctor arrived, felt his pulse, looked at his tongue, sounded his chest, and heard his complaints. He told the patient that he had no fever, but that his lungs were in a state of *congestion*—recommended a dose of calomel, and a large fly blister to be put on the chest of the sufferer; he departed. The next day he called to see the patient, found him well, tongue clean, no pain, and expressed his delight at the effect of his remedies, re-

marking that he had never known them to fail. He asked how long he had left the blister upon the chest. "It is on yet," replied the patient. "On yet!" exclaimed the doctor! "does it not pain you?" "Oh no," said the patient; "see, there it is," pointing to the top of an old chest which was in the room—"it has been lying there ever since you ordered it." The result may be imagined; but the doctor must evidently have concluded, without either believing himself an ignoramus or an impostor, that it is easier with some persons to play the fool or the knave, than the gentleman.

While on this subject I will refer to the opposition to Homœopathy, offered by one of your would-be medical philosophers in New-York, and formerly somewhat notorious in this city. A patient consulted me some months ago, by the request of his friends, who said that he never had any confidence in the Homœopathic system, on account of a lecture he had once heard from the above distinguished individual, while he resided in Baltimore. The doctor, among many other things, told him that the strongest dose given by a Homœopathist would not poison a fly; and he concluded it could not do a sick man any good if that was true. "Did he tell you," said I, "that the dose of vaccine matter which would secure an individual, during a life of a hundred years, from the ravages of Small Pox, would not poison a fly?" "No," said he, "nor did I think of that." I then told him, that a child three months old might swallow a score of vaccine crusts with impunity, while *one* of that score of crusts would protect ten thousand individuals from the Small Pox, by the ordinary and natural attenuation of the matter. So much for the opposition of these distinguished men. By the way, there is an old physician in my neighborhood who numbers some three score and ten years, who has often boasted of a grand feat of his, in swallowing, with impunity, some powders left in a house by a Homœopathist for a patient. I wonder what this conceited disciple of Esculapius would have said, if some fool of a fellow would offer as an argument against the value of his system of vaccination, that he would swallow forty or a hundred doses of the virus *without hurt*.

In conclusion, if the individuals here alluded to as the great sentinels upon the watch-tower of science would devote more time to

study and rational investigation of matters which they do not evidently understand, they would be more respected; and instead of being, without knowing it, enemies to science and humanity, they would lend a more efficient aid in ameliorating the cause of affliction, disease and death.

Respectfully, &c.,

F. R. McMANUS.

Baltimore, Oct. 26, 1851.

Litchfield, Ct., Oct. 2d, 1851.

DR. S. R. KIRBY—Dear Sir,

* * * * *

It is inexpressibly cheering to observe the advance and success of Homœopathy in this district; not a *single* case of Dysentery (and Dysenteries have been frequent with us,) has been lost when treated *Homœopathically*, while the Allopaths have lost perhaps their usual proportion of cases. And it is a matter of keen regret, that an able and regularly educated Homœopathic physician cannot be induced to take up his residence in this quarter, where the *people* are ready to receive him, and to afford him a profitable practice.

With great respect, your friend,

* * * *

Quincy, Illinois, Sept. 17th, 1851.

DEAR DR. KIRBY,

Allow me to inform you that I have permanently located in Quincy, Illinois, with a view of practising medicine. I arrived here with my family on the 5th of last June, and on the 6th had three patients; on the 7th some six or seven. The Cholera had just broken out a few days before I arrived, and in a few days I had as much to do as I could attend to. We had more Cholera here this season than any other town or city in the West, according to the number of inhabitants, and Homœopathy was triumphantly successful. I treated over one hundred cases of marked cholera symptoms, and lost *none* where I saw them before they had gone into a collapse state. Such have been the evidences of the success of the Homœopathic treatment that I have been over-crowded with business. I have not received a copy of your Journal since May. Please send me the back numbers of June,

July and August. We must have more Homœopathic physicians in the West; the people demand this, and there are many important openings here.

A. MILLER, M.D.

ALLOPATHISTS PUZZLED.

The following, from the Homœopathic Times, is as well suited to this country as it is to England :—

"When rogues fall out, honest men are likely to come by their own." The verification of the old adage seems to be in a fair way of being confirmed with regard to Homœopathy. The allopaths, when quarrelling among themselves, as they are very freely doing at this moment, let facts escape which must sooner or later tend to destroy the basis of the fallacious system they are endeavoring to support at the expense of truth and suffering humanity.

A curious letter appeared in the *Times* the other day, on the subject of the strength of certain medical preparations as used on the authority of the several pharmacopœias issued under the sanction of the Colleges of London, Edinburgh and Dublin. According to the respective volumes, that which may be administered as a useful and effective medicine on the theory of the London Allopathic profession, may, if prescribed in the manner directed by the schools of Edinburgh and Dublin, cause results of the most serious character. Indeed, under such a course of practice, "killing" would be considered "no murder," since the authority of the pharmacopœia would be sufficient to nullify any charge of negligence that might be preferred.

The writer of that letter did a great and essential service to the public, when he announced the discrepancies existing in this particular between the practice of the three Allopathic schools. How the heads of the Colleges will relish the exposure, bruited as it has been through the extensive circulation of the metropolitan press, we shall not stop to inquire. The fact has become patent to the world, and it will remain for them to explain it away. It has, however, very opportunely transpired, because it will present in a clear and impartial light the fallacies that even an acknowledged "M.D." has found in the prescribed formulae of his own profession.

Such glaring inconsistencies have only to be every now and then made known to those who suffer daily and hourly from the false doctrines propagated through Allopathy, to induce them to give Homœopathy and its principles a proper investigation, and the contrast, once attempted, will bring with it an immediate refutation of the slanders cast upon our system.

All these disputes tend to one culminating point, viz., the advancement of Homœopathy.

The true and devoted disciples of Hahnemann see and feel this, and hence the small concern expressed at what would, under such circumstances, be regarded as the dangerous onslaught of enemies whose power was feared, and whose protection was sought after.

But the opposite is fortunately the true view of the case. Homœopathy will and must advance, despite every exertion to arrest its progress. If Allopaths will not confess the error of their way, and conform to the revelations made by Samuel Hahnemann, then must they be content to find themselves rejected as bigots, and proportionately ridiculed. Homœopathy is destined to absorb Allopathy, not alone because it is more lofty in its scientific, but also because it is more lofty in its philanthropic aspirations."

CONSISTENCY OF AN ALLOPATH.

Robert Christison, M.D., V.P.R.S.E., and Professor of *Materia Medica* in the University of Edinburgh, in his Inaugural Address to the graduates of 1851, admits that

"Of all medical sciences, therapeutics is the most unsettled, and most unsatisfactory in its present state, and the least advanced in progress, and surrounded by the most numerous and most deceitful sources of fallacy."

This is a truthful admission of an Allopathic physician, and what is remarkable, with such an admission in his mind and upon his tongue, he is found to be a violent opposer of Homœopathy, which upon good authority proposes a method by which those "deceitful sources of fallacy" might be removed. But learning and sound judgment are not always found in the same person.

Professor C. makes the following admission also, which we recommend to our Allopathic brethren for a careful reading :—

"We have no new instruments to aid inquiry, no galaxy of talent concentrated on its cultivation, no great discoveries, even few great improvements commensurate at least with its vast importance, or with the improvements made in other medical sciences; and as for the theory of therapeutics, embracing a generalization of the action of remedies, an accurate description of the physiological effects of each, a just idea of their therapeutic influence, and a knowledge of the condition for employing them, we are little in advance of our predecessors thirty years ago."

The Professor should have gone further back than that in the history of therapeutics in his school; he might have said two thousand and more years, and not misstated the fact

Now these confessions, no Allopathist will deny, come from the very highest authority in their school, and they are what every sensible practitioner knew full well previously to Professor C.'s address. Homœopathy is essentially the science of *Therapeutics*. In her is found all that is known and true in that branch of medicine, and yet with this fact before him, Professor C. tells his forty-five graduates to avoid Homœopathists as follows, viz. :

"Should these characters be not enough to enable you to distinguish the true from the false in therapeutic innovation, there is yet a third criterion remaining. No upright physician ever attained great success in practice on a sudden, or at an early age. For the success of such a one, experience is a necessary condition, and for experience, time. No physician ever found himself immediately raised from obscurity into great employment, by either inventing or adopting a novelty in therapeutics which has subsequently stood the test of inquiry and of time. When, therefore, you may chance to see a professional brother swimming swiftly into fame and fashion on the current of some new popular dogma, (*similia similibus curantur*), I trust you may not even envy him for his prosperity."

The Professor should have used plainer language and said, when you meet a Homœopathist, knock him down, and kick him when down for his presumption, for he has no business to get in before you.

Professor C. says further :

"There can be no physician without physic, no medicine without therapeutics. The only true end of medical knowledge is the cure of diseases. But there can be no cure without remedies. Neither can remedies be of any use unless you know them, and how to give them, and what effects to look for from them *in health and in disease*."

On this we remark, that the disciples of Hahnemann, following in the footsteps of the master, are doing the very thing Professor C. recommends, and yet he omits to acknowledge it. Perhaps this is in accordance with the code of morals of the Allopathic school.

The Cincinnati Journal of Homœopathy for October, and Dr. Pulte's Journal, have not been received at this office.

We never knew an instance of opposition to Homœopathy, but it involved pecuniary interest. "The love of money is the root of all evil."

DAVID L. ROGERS, M.D., has resumed the practice of surgery in this city. Dr. R. is an old friend of ours, of more than twenty years' standing. Previously to our adoption of Homœopathy, surgery was our object and aim, which brought us in daily intercourse with Dr. Rogers. We have seen him operate many times, and had the honor of being often his principal assistant. We do not fear successful contradiction of the assertion, that Dr. David L. Rogers has no superior as an operative surgeon, in this or any other country. Dr. R. confines himself exclusively to surgery; and as he, for years, had an extensive practice, and as we thought at the time unwise retired, because he had acquired a competency; we do not doubt, he will be received by those of our citizens, who may need surgical aid, with that confidence formerly reposed in him. We wish him success.

The SCALPEL is losing its edge—its wit is exhausted. The November number is a little better than its predecessor, but not much. We may not be competent to judge, but it seems to us the editor is hardly of sane mind. Perhaps we are a little old-fashioned in our opinions, but we do think, nevertheless, that he who writes and prints nonsense cannot, with the aid of all "modern improvements," be regarded as having the regular exercise of reason. Poor Dixon, we know him well, and do not believe he would wilfully harm a fly. We never did perceive the design of the Scalpel, and we doubt if its editor did, unless it is to gratify his vanity, and to gain practice. The latter is a failure, but the former is successful.

What is the matter with the Western Lancet? Is it losing its senses, or is it only out of humor? Keep your temper, Mr. Lancet, or we shall suspect that Homœopathia is rather a troublesome thing to manage in Cincinnati, by the "regular profession." Regular profession!!! Come, come, Mr. Lancet, you can't put us Homœopathists out of the profession, the "regular profession," although you can "legitimately" say we are out of the Allopathic school.

Mr. Lancet, we will just whisper in your ear an important fact, which you may find useful, if you are a skilful tactician; there

are mongrels among us Homœopathists, who really belong to your school, and, if placed in your ranks, where they belong, it would reduce our numbers considerably ; then you could say, we are not as numerous as is supposed. Do claim these mongrels, will you ? Some of them are clever, very clever ; they are far-seeing ; they know when to use Allopathic and when Homœopathic means ; while most of us never perceive any utility in the use of Allopathic measures under any circumstances.

~~~~~ NEW-YORK MEDICAL TIMES.

This is the title of an Allopathic Journal just started in this city. The editor of the Times is an active member of the New-York Academy of Medicine, and a strict construction of a rule of that *clique* forbids all communion with Homœopathists. To protect, therefore, the editor from suspicion of having violated that rule, we declare that we came into possession of the first and second numbers of the Medical Times, the only ones yet published, by paying 18½ cents for each ; and in view of the size of the type and the page, the quality of the paper and the matter, we think the price rather high ; yet it is not the first time we have paid "too dear for the whistle" in the purchase of Allopathic works. The Times is to appear monthly, has 32 pages, and yet there is not as much reading matter in it as in the 16 pages of our Journal ; and the editor, who is also the proprietor, wants two dollars a year for it, and he will get it too.

Our *prognosis* is, that the "*New-York Medical Times*" will live, and for the following reasons, 1st : The editor, we believe, is rich and does not seek to practice his profession, consequently he will have the friendly feeling of his colleagues. 2d : The Times is published at so small a cost, that the editor would, no doubt, sustain it even if there were no subscribers.

The editor of the Times has written but little in the two numbers before us, and that little does not enable us to form an opinion of what he can do. He says in the first number, "If his friends render the assistance they have promised, its contents will be varied and interesting ; if, contrary to his confident expectations, they disappoint him, the Times will only add one more to the list of journals in New-York which have been happily commenced,

lived their year, and been forgotten." Now Mr. Editor, we have had some experience in journal business, and therefore we say to you, the sooner you take that all back the better, and in place of it say : Gentlemen colleagues, I shall be happy to receive communications from you if they are of the right stamp, but if you do not see fit to thus aid me, having most of my time unoccupied, I shall try to get along without your assistance. The Times shall live, aid or no aid. Money-making is not my object, but the cause, the time-honored cause of Allopathy, is in danger ; your bread, not mine, is in danger ; in the words of one of my correspondents in another column, Homœopathists 'have contrived to appropriate to themselves, by their trickery, a very large share of the more lucrative practice of the money-ocracy.' Whether you aid me or not I shall go the death on these Homœopathists, these renegades, these impudent rejectors of the lancet, of emetics, cathartics and blisters ; in a word, these knaves who have left 'legitimate medicine,' for a law of cure ; these fools, who are so ignorant as not to know that all Allopathic measures are empirical, and they pretend to have discovered a law, by adhering to which they say, the art of healing approximates certainty. I shall not use the word 'regular,' as heretofore applied to practitioners of our school, for our practice is so varied that the word admits of successful ridicule ; but 'legitimate' is better, for in most of the States we have the civil law with us, and in London and Edinburgh the civil law is altogether in favor of Allopathists ; and if we manage wisely, the zealous efforts of our brethren in England and Scotland, where the law favors them, may be turned to account in this country against these Homœopathists, whom, were it not for their diplomas, I would term quacks, but the law of libel is an embarrassment to me, and I must be cautious of a personal application of that word.

The Medical Gazette—which, by-the-by, grows paler and paler, thinner and thinner, feebler and feebler—and the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, attack rather severely their younger brother the Times, on account of the ignorance of one of its correspondents of the word Knick-knacks—the Times has it Nicknacks, which we think is the best spelling ; the Times being the only authority. Now if this was the only fault the above journals could

find against the Times, they should have been quiet; but we are (we speak it softly,) of the opinion that the Gazette's days are numbered since the appearance of the Times, and the Boston Journal may have fears. We did not intend to say so much when we began this article, but in conclusion; if the Times really desires a long life and a glorious one, it must forsake the old beaten path of Allopathic journals, and strike out a new and original course; enter at once thoroughly, extensively and minutely into the principles which govern Allopathic practitioners in the practice of their art. The two numbers before us is all surgery, **surgery**, which is the lowest branch of the healing art. Go into the practice of medicine, Mr. Times, and examine and give the reasons for what Allopathists do in the treatment of diseases. Follow Dr. Forbes's advice, and you will become the most popular journal in the country. You have nothing, Mr. Times, to distinguish you from other periodicals of your school. You are not yet readable. Let surgery alone; go into medicine—the practice of medicine.

Finally, the two numbers of the Times before us are really weak efforts in advocating the allopathic school. They are full of cases of one kind and another, which mostly are pointless and useless; and we tell the editor, however little he may value our advice, seek no more these case relators, they are a class of doctors we avoid, for not one in a hundred of them will tell the truth. Thirty years' observation as student and doctor has convinced us that most of the published cases in Allopathy cannot be relied on. We never yet met with a physician, who, in relating a case, would tell all that he saw and did. We are reminded of patients, who in consulting a physician, tell only what sufferings they regard of most importance, and omit what to them seems unimportant; and others are ashamed to confess symptoms.

There never were two cases alike, and there never can be; consequently the practice in one case cannot be a true guide in that of another; Homœopathists understand this, but Allopathists do not, and never can so long as they keep in the empirical track of 3000 years, which was laid out by heathens in heathen temples.

We may, at a future period, attempt an analysis of some of the cases related in the Times. Nearly every one furnishes ample

evidence that Allopathic practice is the rankest kind of empiricism. There is a looseness in the reasoning of the practitioners, as every one who knows how to reason cannot fail to perceive, which shows that logic was no part of their education. The reader may exclaim, what a singular notice of a new periodical—true, true it is so, we meant it to be so; and were it not so it would have passed unread; and although we do not care a straw whether the Times lives or dies, so long as it does live we shall pay our 18 $\frac{1}{4}$ cents monthly for a number, and use it just as we please. Not being under the slightest obligation to the editor in any way, we shall speak what we think of the contents of his periodical, and avail ourselves of the Allopathic nonsense he may put forth, to illustrate the superiority and truthfulness of Homœopathy.

~~~~~

**THE NEW WORLD OF MEDICINE.**—What the compass is to the sea and sky-girt mariner, is the precept *similia similibus curantur* to him who seizes the helm of life and ventures to control its issues. As a maxim it is the cynosure of therapeutic science. Each new success of the Allopathist is fortuitous; the regions before his prow are a *terra incognita*; his retrospect is the disordered vista of empiricism; his progress in eures waits on accident.

~~~~~

To love truth for its own sake, is a moral excellence not easily acquired; and the true champion for Homœopathy must stand upon this platform, or he will be of little value in the school. This principle is the only one that can produce and perpetuate harmony among Homœopathists.

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Attacks upon us personally are unworthy of notice. But when the principles we advocate are attacked, we shall not hesitate to defend them.

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This Journal is engaged in a great work, the propagation of fixed principles in medicine; and it cannot be induced to bend to propitiate any one.

~~~~~

"Doctor," said a man to a physician, "my daughter had a fit this morning, and she continued for half an hour without knowledge or understanding." "Oh," replied the doctor, "never mind that; many people continue so *all their lives!*"

Professor Draper delivered the Introductory Lecture at the opening of the new edifice of the University Medical College of this city. The Lecture has been published. It is an able production of its kind, it being an extended advertisement of that College. The following, however, we deem worthy a place in our columns, viz. :

"So rapid is the advance of the great sciences, anatomy, chemistry, physiology, that most assuredly, in less than twenty years, the great physician will have come. The man is now born who will seize the grand prize. Even those of us who have most upheld our old professional theories, and have tried to keep in reverence the old opinions and the old times, find that, under the advancee of the exact sciences, our position is becoming untenable. *The ground is slipping away from beneath our feet. We are on the brink of a great revolution.* Go where you will, among intelligent physicians, you will find a deep, though it may be an indistinct, pereception that a great change is imminent. In politics and in religion, every erisis finds its representative and embodiment in some man. Is it too much to hope that, in this nation of praetieal men, one may be found who will stand forth the teacher and master of physicians—the greatest of all the benefactors of our race, who will do for medicine what Newton did for astronomy, and, oh! what glory if he should do it in these walls."

Some will probably regard the admission of Professor D. as remarkable; but it does not so strike our mind. Professor D. is an able and an honest man. He loves the truth, and seeks it with zeal and industry. He does not believe a thing true, simply because of its antiquity; and such is the capaecty and discipline of his mind, that new truths do not astonish him, nor does prejudice unduly influence him. The above extract shows that he perceives changes going on in medieine, and that "*a great revolution*" must soon take place. It is highly creditable to Prof. D. that he thus interprets the signs of the times, and it will hereafter be an imperishable honor to the University Medical College of New York, if his colleagues agree with him and act accordingly. Professor D. anticipates that the old doctrines in medieine must be given up—they are "*slipping away.*" This is true, and no honest-minded and intelligent allopath dare deny it.

We have not room for many thoughts which Professor D.'s lecture has awaked in us, but in our next number we may undertake to show, from the signs of the times, what is the true policy of the school of Homœopathy, that it

may be instrumental in hastening that "great revolution," upon the brink of whieh the Allopathic school indistinctly pereives itself to be placed.

The *Medical Gazette* says: "The present generation of New York doctors are not remarkable for reading much, still less for writing anything worthy of a place in the transactions of any literary body. There is no aristocracy here of *learning or merit* in the profession, but men are estimated and estimate themselves by the wealth they can acquire, or by the semblance of it which they can assume."

Have a care, Mr. Gazette, have a care, or your imprudence will be the death of you. What! charge the members of the New York Academy of Medicine that they do n't read, and can't write!! Murder will out, and so will truth. We have often reflected upon the developed ignorance (to use the classieal and favorite word of the Gazette,) of that "*tribe,*" and could not account for it; but now it is plain enough—they do n't read, and can't write. No wonder the colleges begin to look into the preliminary education of their students. The Gazette says further: "Our younger men give better promise for the next generation, whieh is the only redeeming feature in the por-trait." We now understand why these Academy "fellows" assert that homœopathists are knaves or fools. It is envy, pure envy, and the love of money. For homœopathists do read and can write, and the people do think it desirable that a physician should possess these accomplishments; therefore, homœopathists everywhere attend professionally on the most desirable families.

The editor of the Gazette will doubtless have to stand a trial before the Academy, for "telling tales out of school."

We may be, in the opinion of some, behind the age, but we cannot be concerned, directly or indirectly, in giving countenance to profess-ed homœopathic practitioners who do not possess a *diploma* as evidence of having read medicine and surgery, and passed an examination by some legally constituted authority. This may seem severe in some cases, in certain sec-tions of our country; yet we think it a safe rule, which we do not feel disposed to abandon.

We have, in a few instances, been imposed upon, and the names of two or three have ap-peared in this Journal as licensed physicians, who were not so. We are now more careful.

This will account for our not noticing a homœopathic journal lately started some hundreds of miles from this city. One of the editors held a *diploma*, that once underwent an examination and was found wanting. The diploma was said to be an original, except the name. American physicians should be careful in their examination of diplomas from Europe; many of them are of little value, and yet some of them, to our knowledge, have been treated with the highest consideration; that is, the possessors have been admitted to take rank among those who possessed the highest honors of our colleges.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

**M.C.M.** is informed that Dr. Wm. F. Owen, of Spring, Crawford County, Pa., is represented to us from undoubted authority, as a regularly educated physician, and for the last twelve years a practitioner of Homœopathy. We think Dr. Owen, in the case he relates in the last number of this Journal, should have stated the medicine and the attenuation the Allopath took, which produced effects so sudden as to cause so much alarm. The subsequent sickness of the doctor was, no doubt, caused by the treatment he received at the hands of his colleague. We have, in several instances, in a few minutes, produced effects in healthy persons by the 30th potency of *Rhus Radicans*, which alarmed them; and it is not unlikely other drugs may do so. Suppose the Allopath in Dr. Owen's case, felt, as most likely he did, a burning sensation in his chest and abdomen, although it might have been slight, and would have subsided in a few minutes, yet in his state of mind he apprehended something serious, became alarmed, and all that followed was quite natural under the treatment. But Dr. Owen should frankly tell the profession what the drug was, as some may infer that our doses are really capable of doing irreparable mischief, which is not true.

"*A Homœopath*" inquires, who is the editor of the Cincinnati Journal of Homœopathy? Until recently we thought there were three editors, but within a few days we have learned that there is but one. Three names appear as editors, two we understand have never performed any duty, and the third employs a layman to write against us, which is about all the original matter that has yet appeared in that print.

"*A friend of harmony*" is informed, that we are rather too "old a stager," to waste our time in replying to the unjust personalities of "*The Homœopathist*." We shall quietly wait for the decision of the school in regard to the course that Journal is pursuing.

**M.D.** Some men seek notoriety by provoking opposition. Should we pursue the subject as you suggest, it would enable the "tricky" person you speak of to accomplish his selfish object. Let him alone, he will find his level.

"*Pennsylvania*" mistakes us if he thinks we can be induced, under any circumstances, to notice personal matters which do not involve the cause we advocate.

"*B. T. R.*, of Philadelphia." We knew, intimately, the late Hans B. Gram, M.D. He was thoroughly educated in his profession, and had had much experience in the practice of it. So far as we know, he was the first to introduce Homœopathy into this country, although he was not a pure Homœopathist. He was an *eclectic*. He employed venesection and other Allopathic measures. He did not seem to us to have much confidence in attenuated medicines, for he prescribed mostly crude drugs. His prescriptions were often put up by the ordinary apothecary. Dr. Gram assumed that all healing measures are empirical, and in practice he did not seem to estimate the *law of cure*.

Dr. William Channing was the first physician in this city who placed himself upon the Hahnemannian platform, which he did in the summer of 1832. He strictly adhered to the principles of Homœopathy, and to the practice of Hahnemann, and rejected all Allopathic measures in the treatment of diseases. Dr. Gram's loose practice has had to this day a deleterious influence upon the practice of Homœopathy in this city. Philadelphia differs from New-York in this; Homœopathy was introduced into your city by men of the true Hahnemannian spirit, whilst in this city it was started by those who did not fully comprehend Hahnemann's doctrine and practice, and consequently they became *eclectics*. In your city the true spirit of Homœopathy prevails and is popular; in this city, *eclecticism* in the name of Homœopathy, is in the ascendant. With you the current runs smoothly and quietly; but with us it is rough and boisterous. With you no one is guilty of detraction because of the use of high attenuations; but with us it is a daily occurrence. In this city high dilutionist and low dilutionist are household words, and the practitioner is often selected in view of the position he is supposed to occupy in this respect.

This false view of things leads to much mischief, not only among practitioners, but also among the laity. The real distinction is, *Eclectics* and *Homœopathists*; but it will take some time for the public to understand this matter, and thereby protect itself from a modified Allopathic practice, assuming the name of Homœopathy.

**WOMAN'S INTUITION.**—The perception of a woman is quick as lightning; her penetration is intuition, almost instinct. By a glance she will draw a deep and just conclusion. Ask her how she found it, and she cannot answer the question. A philosopher deduces inferences, and his inferences shall be right; he gets to the head of the staircase (if I may so say) by slow degrees, mounting step by step. She arrives at the top of the staircase as well as he; but whether she flew there is more than she knows herself.—*Sherlock.*

There was formerly a sect in Kentucky known as the "Live Forevers," the principal feature of whose creed was, that its faithful disciples should never die. As there are none of them left, it is to be presumed that they all departed from the faith!

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# THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

*"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."*

VOL. 6.

NEW-YORK, DECEMBER, 1851.

NO. 8.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

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## American Journal of Homœopathy.

NEW-YORK, DECEMBER, 1851.

## REASONS FOR EMBRACING HOMŒO- PATHY.

(Continued from page 82.)

Any testimony, however strong, however clear, was unavailing to us; the mists of prejudice, deep-rooted inveterate prejudice, shrouded our mental vision as with Egyptian darkness; every misrepresentation was had recourse to, and satisfied us; we despised Homœopathy, called Hahnemann a cheat and a nostrum vender, eagerly clutching at a non-authenticated piece of gossip, and delivering upon this a verdict, the evidence for which would have been deemed insufficient by any twelve intelligent and unprejudiced persons, and which, even if it had been true, could not have tested the merits or demerits of the Homœopathic law. Had we really been desirous of knowing Hahnemann's character, in its moral, as well as its professional relation, we could have been sufficiently informed by men of reputation, his contemporaries—yet not Homœopathists.

Marmaduke Sampson, Esq., in his very able essay entitled—"Truths and their reception, considered in relation to the doctrine of Homœopathy," (a work as well as others of the

same talented writer, by which the writer's impressions upon the subject were greatly strengthened) has collected a number of testimonials from well known persons in various parts of Europe.

The venerable Hufeland acknowledged the highest personal respect for Hahnemann. Valentine Mott, the eminent American surgeon, says:—"Hahnemann is one of the most accomplished and *scientific* physicians of the present age." Dr. Uwins and Mr. Kingdon of London considered that Hahnemann was worthy of the thanks of the profession, for his unwearied industry in ascertaining the properties of medicines.

Dr. Sigmund speaks of him as a man of high intellectual attainments, of great sagacity, of inflexible courage, and of unwearied industry.

Dr. Forbes bears a similar testimony, and we are inclined to think that the evidence of these gentlemen is sufficient for the purpose.

The author's suspicions that Homœopathic medicines had really some action, were first awakened in 1844, by one of his patients, an Oxford student, calling upon him during the long vacation. This young gentleman had been for several years under his care for a heart affection, which had caused himself and his family considerable anxiety. Consultations had been held with practitioners of high standing in Edinburgh, and he had been actively treated *secundem artem*, by depletions, digitalis, counter-irritants, &c. He told the writer that since he had last seen him, he had been under the care of an Homœopathic physician. "Well," was his but ill-pleased Doctor's reply, "you did not experience any effects from his sugar-plums!" "Pardon me, Doctor, the effects were very perceptible." This answer appeared somewhat strange: is it possible that a decillionth of aconite can produce any sensible effect? He passed away to Oxford, his physician remaining unconvinced, attributing the consequences of the remedies to something given clandestinely: a refuge to which he and those like minded with him, invariably betook themselves, and he remained obstinate, notwithstanding that his patients continued to desert him for the homœopathic practitioner. Occasionally we heard of a death occurring in the practice of our rivals. This furnished ample scope for our eloquence. The man has been

murdered! a case of inflammation has terminated in death! of course, what could be expected,—the man was not bled! we spoke and wrote as though a fatal termination was a *novelty* amongst us Solons of the allopathic school. Then one of our brethren exulted over a performance of his own, which we all maintained satisfactorily settled the question of the action of infinitesimal doses. This worthy doctor actually did a Homœopathic physician the honor of sitting at the same table with him, at the house of a mutual friend; their worthy host's hospitality had the effect of somewhat dispelling the frigidity of the worthy allopath, who, after dinner, accosted his erring brother, and asked him for an inspection of his pocket medicine case; it was immediately handed to him. Selecting the tube labelled *nux vomica*, he had the hardihood to pour the contents into his palm and swallow them, looking for the approving smiles of the assembled guests. This was too good an incident to be lost, we in our absolute wisdom proclaimed it far and wide. Do you still persist in believing that these globules contain what they profess to do? if they really consisted of *nux vomica*, do you not suppose that some visible result would have followed the swallowing of so many? These were the queries put to our Homœopathic unprofessional friends, *unprofessional*, observe, for otherwise the solution of the apparent difficulty would have been very easy. For it is only under certain morbid conditions that these medicines act by their peculiar affinities. A child at the time not susceptible of the disease, may be exposed to the contagion of scarlatina, small-pox or other of the exanthemata without contracting the disease; yet a similar exposure a month afterwards may be followed by the development of the malady: or three men might be bitten by the same rabid dog, and but one of them sicken with hydrophobia; would any one from this deny the malignity of the virus? Besides it is a well ascertained fact that small doses of medicinal substances will frequently produce more powerful effects than larger quantities of them. To test the action of infinitesimal doses is purely a matter of experience, and it is in the power of any one to satisfy himself on the subject. We also attributed the so-called cures to the effect of imagination: although many cases of recovery from acute diseases in children could not with any fairness be attributed either to mental or moral causes: but the fact was, we *would* not allow that Homœopathy could cure, and it was therefore settled by us that it *should* not. All cures were attributed to any cause but the right one, although recoveries under Allopathic remedies were readily enough allowed to be the effect of the remedies employed, nor in spite of our assertions that diet alone would cure disease, did we ever trust to it exclusively in severe maladies. The press now began vigorously to send forth its productions upon the subject; but, although a reader of the surprising effects nar-

rated, scepticism was yet in the ascendant. In the summer of 1848, the writer was led by circumstances to join a highly respectable practitioner in Alnwick, and he with great regret left Edinburgh. In the quiet locality to which he now removed, he ceased to think of Homœopathy, and hoped to pursue his vocation unmolested by that pestilent heresy; although, occasionally meeting with it amongst the higher classes of society, nothing else in the town or neighborhood induced him to pay any greater attention to its claims; nor indeed, to trouble himself about it at all, further than to lend to the few who advocated its principles, certain publications opposed to them. But he could not avoid reading of the opening of hospitals for the reception of patients laboring under acute disease, and of the invitation to the medical profession to witness their treatment. This course of proceeding seemed to be a somewhat unusual one for quacks to pursue, and besides this, ever and anon, he received communications from friends and former patients, many of whom he knew to have been once opposed to Homœopathy, but who now informed him of the benefit which they had received from it. He also observed that the number of well educated medical practitioners practising upon the Homœopathic principle was yearly on the increase. He remembered that when a student at the *Ecole de Medicine* in 1831, there was but one Homœopathic practitioner in Paris, Dr. Quin, and that he removed to London. Contrasting that state of things with the present (1849), he remarked that in London there were upwards of thirty Homœopathic practitioners; in Paris a considerable number; throughout Germany, its birthplace, and under the sanction of the reigning powers, it was rapidly increasing; that in America, they were to be counted by hundreds. That amongst these practitioners were men of unquestionable character and reputation, many of whom had for many years successfully practised according to the old system, and many others who determined to try whether there was any, and how much truth existed in it, had their doubts removed so far as to there being action in the infinitesimal doses. Space will not allow of the writer's giving a list of them, he will mention the names of some in Britain:—Dr. Uwins, Mr. Kingdon, Dr. Millingen, and Professor Liston, in London; Professor Henderson, in Edinburgh; Mr. Ramsbotham, Mr. Smith, and Dr. Wright, in Huddersfield: the three latter adopting its practice exclusively. Dr. Uwins and Mr. Kingdon brought the subject before the London Medical Society, the latter detailing several cases in which the Homœopathic remedies were of signal service. The thanks which these gentlemen received for their attempt to diffuse information upon this subject amongst their brethren in a legitimate manner, were rudeness and reprobation. Dr. Uwins was assailed as a madman, and when Mr. Kingdon had concluded his interesting paper, one

member said that—"he thought that all Homœopathized patients were cured by nature"—another, that he did not believe in it—and a third, that "it was all humbug;" and as an appropriate finale to the proceedings of this meeting of philosophers, a tacit understanding was come to, that the subject *should never again be mooted in that assembly.*

(*To be continued.*)

## HOMŒOPATHY AND ITS OPPONENTS.

Continued from page 99.

With a facility peculiarly his own, we instantly find him at the *five concluding lines* of the 59th aphorism, a long one too, omitting the word "*antipathic*," and substituting "*their*," we presume because the words sounded so much alike. Immediately, we have the *first few lines* of the 61st aphorism, italicized by Hahnemann, and reading thus—"If physicians had been capable of reflecting upon the sad results of the application of antipathic remedies, they would long ago have arrived at the great truth, that a path directly opposite would lead them to a method of treatment by which they might cure disease perfectly and permanently." But not so does Dr. B. quote it, *he* has it thus:—"If physicians had been capable of reflecting upon the sad results of their remedies, they would long ago have arrived at the great truth by which they might cure diseases, perfectly and permanently." Where next is the facetious gentleman? for it is hard to keep the run of him. Just seventy pages back again in the middle of the introduction. Here a line or two is garbled, and another leap taken with his "seven leagued boots," to the latter half of the 62d aphorism, which like the rest is *purposely* mutilated. Thus dealing with the writings of Hahnemann, Dr. Blatchford thinks, and wishes his readers to think it a matter of difficulty "to determine which most to admire, ignorance, impudence, arrogance, or presumption." We think quite differently. Dr. Blatchford has ventured to *illustrate* a subject of which he *knows* nothing, and thus displays *his* ignorance. He has perverted his author's meaning, by omissions from and additions to such extracts as he has been pleased to make, and thus betrays *his* impudence. He has assumed an authoritative and unscrupulously denunciatory tone, as ridiculous as it is misplaced, and therefore is *he* arrogant and presuming. He has labored hard, but not in the cause of

truth; the mountain has only brought forth a mouse. Yet after all the brilliant scintillations of wit, and Herculean efforts to destroy the fair fabric of the immortal Hahnemann, we find the Doctor in a momentary mood of generosity or forgetfulness, for he has recorded the following startling admission. "Physicians (*says he*) are now, and most assuredly ever have been, at perfect liberty to combat disease either by the rules *similia similibus* or *contraria contrariis*, just as their experience and their enlightened judgment shall dictate. I certainly know of none who does not exercise this right. That a larger class of diseases than have usually been treated by the rule *similia similibus* may be better managed by it than by its opposite, is very possible, and if Homœopathy had proposed such an investigation, I am certain no enlightened physician in any country under heaven would have raised a finger of hindrance or a note of opposition, and, as it is, this part of the subject deserves to be looked into and examined diligently, for medical science is as yet far from being perfected; much still remains to be accomplished; but the way to improve it certainly never can be to malign the whole profession, to impeach the motives of its supports and ornaments, to question the designs of a class of men whose professional characters have hitherto, at least for the most part, been beyond the possibility of reproach; to hold such men up to the world as a body of men not trustworthy certainly cannot advance that science they profess to love and cherish."

Now we call this a *startling* admission for that man to make who but a few pages in advance had declared, that if Homœopathy "is adapted to the capacity and the wants of any portion of animated nature, it must be that of some order of animals essentially differing from man both in mental and physical structure." The whole vocabulary of ridicule is heaped upon this "*similia similibus*" rule, yet we may combat disease by it, and have a perfect right to do so. The possibility of treating diseases "*better*" by it than by its opposite is admitted, and the subject declared worthy of a "*diligent*" examination, yet the practitioner who having so examined, finds that he can treat his patients *better* than by the rule "*contraria contrariis*," and who is conscientious in his motives, is denounced as a mercenary charlatan, called a fool or a knave, and scouted by his brethren because he *does* as his "*ex-*

perience and enlightened judgment" dictates. Was not Professor Henderson of the Edinburgh University, a "support and ornament" to the profession up to the period of his conversion to Homœopathy? Was he not an able lecturer and a trustworthy practitioner? Most assuredly he was. Why then is he now maligned, and his motives and designs impeached? Why is he regarded by the "whole profession" (Allopaths of course) as *non compos mentis*, or a knavish apostate from the true faith? Because, having the unquestioned *right* to do so, he chose to combat disease by the rule *similia similibus curantur*; in other words, because he became a Homœopath. And so it is with all who presume to renounce Allopathy. They may be as able, as talented, as conscientious, and as just as any class of men, but they practice Homœopathy, and with a success that challenges a comparison with the stereotyped method of its opponents: this it is that's gall and wormwood to the regulars, hence they assail it furiously, and lavish upon us the epithets "quack," "fool," "knaver," and "cheat." Right welcome are they to the use of these gentlemanly epithets. Si nulla alia ne modestia certe et linguam temperando adolescens senes vicero.

KOPP.

New York, Sept. 1851.

(To be continued.)

## ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

OF THE LONDON HOMOEOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

Held at the Albion Tavern, April 10th, 1851.

Thursday, the 10th of April, being the anniversary of the birth of Samuel Hahnemann, and of the establishment, twelve months since, of the London Homœopathic Hospital in Golden Square, was celebrated by a dinner at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street. The Most Noble the Marquis of Worcester presided, supported by Lord Alfred Paget, M. P., Captain E. Somerset, Dr. Quin, Mr. George Krehmer, Russian Consul-General, Mr. Culling Smith, Mr. M. B. Sampson, Mr. T. Uwins, R. A., Mr. N. Barton, Rev. J. Burnet, Dr. Hamilton, Mr. James Spicer, Mr. Edward Esdaile, Mr. H. Bateman, Mr. T. Piper, Mr. W. Piper, Mr. H. Piper, Dr. Massol, Dr. Partridge, Mr. Scorer, Mr. Braysher, Mr. Carbonell, the Chevalier de Martino, Mr. Mercier, Mr. Cholmondeley, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Hooper, Mr. P. Gardner, Captain Branford, Dr. Trueman, and about 120 other friends of the Institution;

while the gallery, recently erected for the accommodation of the ladies, was fully occupied.

Upon the removal of the cloth, the noble Lord who occupied the chair proposed, in a feeling and graceful manner, the healths of her Majesty and of H. R. H. Prince Albert, and the rest of the Royal Family. These toasts having been drunk with all the honours—

Mr Culling Smith said: My lords and gentlemen, I have the honour to be deputed to propose to you the health of an illustrious lady, who benevolently and graciously presides over this Institution. (Hear, hear.) Nature has done her best to render this royal lady eminently worthy of her high birth and exalted station, for all who have the honour and good fortune to be allowed to approach her can testify, that the graces of her distinguished demeanour are fully supported, if not surpassed, by the excellencies of her character and disposition. (Great applause.) With such a patroness, no wonder our infant Hospital should already have made vast and promising strides; and when in addition the name of Cambridge is announced to you, a name which has long carried with it in this country a *prestige* of success to all charitable undertakings, I am certain that every man amongst us will fill a bumper to the toast with heartfelt gladness, and exert every nerve to promote the objects of a charity so presided over. (Applause.) I will now give to you, my lords and gentlemen, the health of our illustrious patroness, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge.

The toast having been received with demonstrations of sincere respect,—

Mr. Sampson, who rose amidst the strongest testimony of approbation from all sides, said:—I rise to fulfil a duty which, while it is the most solemn and honourable (hear), is at the same time, perhaps, the easiest that could have been assigned to me, since it will require no words to call forth the warmest response your hearts can give. It is to name to you the memory of Hahnemann. (Loud cheers.) All who are here, even if there are some who have not yet actually avowed themselves his disciples, will understand the acknowledgments we pay to his name on account of the universality we attach to the great doctrine of which he was the founder (hear), and it would, therefore, be a waste of time to dwell upon the tribute we thus owe to him. It is not simply as the discoverer of Homœopathy, or as the author of scientific treatises that have produced a profounder impression upon the world than those of any other man, that we can, on an occasion like the present, most profitably dwell upon his name. It is in a nobler and more feeling sense we may contemplate his career. Although there is no such thing, some persons are apt to believe that discoveries are often made by chance—that this, in fact, is the case in a majority of instances. They come unsought, suggested by some curious coincidence or happy inspiration, and being followed up by ordinary industry, result in the

immortality of their authors. It was natural, such persons will say, that when Hahnemann, in the quiet of his study, fell upon the fact that Peruvian bark is capable of producing symptoms analogous to those for which it is a remedy, he should have been struck by so singular a circumstance, and should have been led to institute a series of investigations to ascertain if it were accidental, or if it had a broader foundation; and although he followed up these investigations with the unwearying labour of a life, yet those who are conversant with the labours of scientific men, and especially of those who devote themselves to medical science, will be aware that there are in this city at this moment tens or hundreds of persons who hold themselves ready at all times to devote every energy of their minds to the investigation of whatever phenomena may seem to be fairly presented to their observation. (Hear.) Although Hahnemann deserves pre-eminence in this respect (cheers), it will therefore be said, it is not sufficient to account for that extraordinary love, that ardent affection, which his disciples invariably manifest, whenever his name is recalled to them (loud cheers): and, consequently, there must be some other reason, or else that it will be fair to interpret it as an attempt, by a kind of hero-worship, to awaken an enthusiasm for a system that would otherwise want a common bond. (Hear, hear.) The answer is, that another reason does exist (hear), and that we reverence Hahnemann not so much as the discoverer of Homœopathy, as because the circumstances under which he was led to that discovery arose from the unswerving integrity of his nature (loud cheers), which recognised no guide but his own conscience, and which caused him to put aside as nothing every advantage which the world could offer when he felt that by accepting them he could not best exercise the faculties that had been given him for the advancement of mankind. (Loud and renewed cheering.) With domestic ties to claim his care, with every prospect of honour and profit before him, he gave up all, and left his home and his profession, rather than practise a system in which his convictions had no part. (Cheers.) It was out of this that the circumstances arose which led him to the discovery of Homœopathy; and the lesson that is taught us by the glory of his subsequent career, and the one that we should take to our homes and most inculcate there is, that however dark and narrow the path of duty may momentarily seem, it is invariably, when faithfully trod, the opening to an imperishable reward. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) Taking this view, we shall continue to proclaim his greatness, and shall feel that the acknowledgment of it will extend with increasing civilisation, until instead of being honoured by a sect, he will be loved universally. (Loud cheers.) The daily beauty of his life (hear) will be quoted as a charm to all (hear, hear): since in him the intellect, the moral sentiments, and the animal powers were

so blended, that they were used harmoniously as instruments of Providence, and there was none of the exhaustion consequent upon ill-regulated gifts but an old age which only turned to grander lights the clouds that are usually looked for at its approach. (Much cheering.) At the same time, while we dwell upon these things, we shall feel that those only are the true disciples of Hahnemann who receive not merely his intellectual doctrines, but also the moral spirit by which they were vitalized. (Hear, hear, hear.) It is not by bowing down in unquestioning homage to everything he may have taught—by adopting, in short, in his case, that mere deference to authority which it was the very object of his mission to break down—but by pursuing, as he did, an independent course, by seeking only to aid truth (hear, hear), and by abstaining from all animosities, that the true inheritors of his great task can show themselves. (Renewed cheering.) Whenever, therefore, a homœopathist shall find himself betrayed into anger, sarcasm, or unkind interpretations against any of the profession who may not yet have arrived at the same views, against any of his colleagues, or, indeed, against any human being, we may hope he will be arrested by the consciousness of his unfaithfulness, and that he will feel that at such moments he is a Hahnemannian only by rote and not in fact. (Hear.) It is because we may believe that these convictions are entertained by all who are connected with this Hospital, and that under the benign sway of its chairman there exists a degree of union and mutual respect which nothing can efface, that it is pleasing to dwell upon such considerations at the present moment, and to propose, as I now do, this toast to the memory of Hahnemann (loud and repeated cheering),—and that we should drink it in solemn silence, but without a tinge of sadness—that it should be for us, indeed, one of entire rejoicing—rejoicing at the day of his birth—rejoicing at the glorious labours of his manhood—rejoicing at the splendid radiance of his age, and, above all, rejoicing that with his years ripe and his work fulfilled, he has passed to his reward—that nothing can now change the record of his life—that such as it was it belongs to eternity, and that it is left to us to contemplate as travellers still on earth would contemplate another star that has been added by its Creator to those already placed before them to aid and sustain them on their way.

The close of Mr. Sampson's speech was received with deep marks of approbation, and he resumed his seat amidst prolonged murmurs of applause.

The memory of Hahnemann having been drunk in solemn silence, and a song written for the occasion sung in his honour,—

The Chairman, in rising to propose the toast of the evening, “Success to the British Homœopathic Institutions,—especially to the London Homœopathic Hospital,” spoke as fol-

lows:—I come before you to do so with mixed feelings,—feelings of pleasure at being permitted that honour, and feelings of regret that I am altogether inadequate to the task of properly putting the toast before you, the more especially after you have listened to the eloquent and able address of the gentleman who has just sat down, and who has for years past devoted his great and acknowledged talents to the advocacy and defence of the principles of homœopathic science. (Loud cheers.) Though I feel the difficulties under which I labour, still I regard it as a high honour to be placed in the position I now fill, and to be allowed to propose such a toast. (Cheers.) I will not detain the gentlemen present at any length, but I feel bound to make a few observations relative to the objects for which your Hospital was founded. The gentleman whom we have the honour to have at the head of our medical staff, Dr. Quin (loud cheers), has long laboured independently to promote and extend a knowledge of the science of Homœopathy. (Cheers.) As far back as 1830 he visited the shores of the Danube with that object, and there achieved striking results, which, with those of Mr. Kidd at a later period, in the year 1847, on the western coast of Ireland, contributed in the most remarkable way to the impression which the facts of the system have made upon the public. But although these labours were crowned with success in the treatment of cholera, in its most virulent form, and subsequently in the alleviation and cure of the starvation fever in Ireland, the practitioners of the old school could not be expected to adopt the new doctrine without more direct and personal opportunities of witnessing its operation. To enable them to do so was one of the reasons which led to the establishment of this Hospital. (Cheers.) And I am happy to have reason to believe that it has already led to very gratifying results, as men of recognised talent and standing in the profession, who had never been disciples of the great Hahnemann, have not only been constant attendants at our lectures, but have watched the progress and treatment of many of our cases, from the moment of their reception into the Hospital, through all their stages, until, in most instances, they were restored to convalescence. (Cheers.) I will now endeavour to lay before you one or two reasons why this Hospital demands your special support. I have heard it stated that there are already too many hospitals, and that we ought not to establish any more, as they so divert the streams of charity that they injure those previously established, without doing an equivalent amount of good. That, however, may be denied; and I believe the principles of charity are so universal in the metropolis of this country, that there is yet ample room for many more institutions of a similar description. (Cheers.) But apart from this, homœopathic hospitals have claims to public support, the more especially as I find that the patients cured in them return convalescent

to their homes, upon an average, seven days earlier than the patients of hospitals conducted on the old principle. (Cheers.) That is a matter of great importance to the working man, as, of course, when he does not work he does not receive his wages, and cannot, therefore, contribute to the support of his family. Nor is that all. Those who return home from the old hospitals, after being thoroughly drenched with nauseous drugs, are generally but very little fitted for labour; but those who return home from the homœopathic hospital do so in a better state of health than they were in before they were attacked with the illness which took them to it. (Cheers.) There is, above all, the important circumstance to which I cannot help alluding—viz., that, whereas, the average deaths among the patients in other hospitals is 8 per cent., in ours it has been under 4 per cent. (cheers); and although I do not wish to attach too much weight to that circumstance, as we have as yet only had the experience of one year, yet still it is a most gratifying fact. (Cheers.) Our Hospital is in most complete and perfect order, and I trust before we again meet that we shall be enabled to extend its operation. Even with the limited accommodation of twenty-five beds, we have, during the year, received within our walls 156 patients, of whom 97 have been cured (cheers), and 20 materially relieved, six only having died. Four left the hospital too early for any result to be arrived at; 20 still remain under treatment. During this time, also, there have been 1547 out-patients, of whom 554 have been cured; 407 materially relieved; 3 died; 25 admitted as in-patients; 202 left the hospital from various causes; and 357 still remain under treatment. (Cheers.) Moreover, all this good has been effected at a most trifling outlay, the total income having been only £1724—of which amount £494 has been invested, and £81 17s. still remain in hand. (Cheers.) Looking to these circumstances and these results, I trust that the public will come forward liberally to support the London Homœopathic Hospital, and that medical men who have not yet subscribed to our principles, viewing the wonderful effects of the treatment, will be led to acknowledge its benefits, and extend the application of the system upon which it is founded amongst their colleagues and their more immediate connections. (Cheers.) I feel that we are greatly indebted to the zeal, energy, and talent of our medical officers, whose care and attention to the wants of their patients and the interests of the Institution, have brought it to its present proud position; and I look with confidence to a continuance of that care and attention to maintain and increase its prosperity. (Cheers.) The noble marquis concluded, amidst loud cheers, by proposing success to the London Homœopathic Hospital.

Dr. C. Holland said, he believed on this occasion he was a very apt illustration of the fact how easy it was to glide unconsciously into difficulties. He had attended on the present ses-

tive occasion merely with the view of being a silent listener, and without the intention of adding one word to what had been so ably set forth by the admirers and supporters of their system; but, upon entering the room, his good friend Dr. Quin said he thought he could make some use of him. (Laughter.) He regretted that the proposal of the toast he was intrusted with had not fallen into abler hands, for it was to the health of a most distinguished nobleman, well known on account of his high rank, as well as his estimable qualities. It was the health of the Vice-Patron of that Institution, his Grace the Duke of Beaufort. (Loud cheers.) The noble duke had served with great distinction in the Peninsular war, in which he was aide-de-camp to the Duke of Wellington. Happily, they had now had a long cessation of war in this country, which had given his Grace the opportunity of benefitting and supporting by his illustrious name institutions for the alleviation of the distresses of mankind. His Grace had been one of the earliest patrons of Homœopathy, and one of the first to come forward in support of the London Homœopathic Hospital. (Loud cheers.) When he called their attention also to the fact that their noble chairman was the son of that illustrious duke, and that the chairman of their Hospital, Mr. Culling Smith, was father-in-law to his Grace—and in mentioning the name of Mr. Culling Smith, he could not forbear calling attention to that gentleman's indefatigable perseverance to promote the interests of the Hospital, for which they were all so deeply indebted to him—he felt assured that such a toast would be received with universal enthusiasm. (Cheers.)

The Chairman begged, on the part of his father, to thank them most sincerely for the very flattering way in which they had been kind enough to receive the toast. His father was an old homœopathist, not only in theory but in practice, and had derived great benefit from the system. (Cheers.)

Mr. Uwins, R. A., found that age had its advantage, for he was the oldest lay convert to the truth of the principles of Homœopathy in this country, and it gave him great pleasure to observe the progress those principles were making with the public. (Cheers.) He had to propose the health of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Institution (cheers), and in doing so, he could not help congratulating them on the number of important additions they had lately received to the list of their vice-presidents. (Cheers.) He found in that list the name of Dr. Whately, the Archbishop of Dublin, who was generally acknowledged to be the greatest logician and ablest reasoner of the day. (Cheers.) He also observed the name of Mr. Sampson (cheers), who had made himself remarkable for the perseverance with which he had brought his clear and manly mind to bear upon the subject, and who had also long been known by his able essay on the practice

of Homœopathy. (Cheers.) And then again he found upon the list the name of a gentleman to whom Mr Sampson had appropriately dedicated the third edition of his essay—their old friend Dr. Quin. (Long continued cheers.) That gentleman was the first medical man who had come boldly forward to carry out the principles he advocated, through the means of a public hospital; and after twelve months experience of its working they found it every day growing in strength, and proving the truth of those principles. (Cheers.) He would give them the President (the most noble the Marquis of Anglesey) and the Vice-Presidents of the London Homœopathic Hospital. (Loud cheers.)

Lord A. Paget must confess he had been very unexpectedly called upon to take part in the proceedings, for, to tell them the truth, he had made a kind of bargain with Dr. Quin, that if he came there to dine he was not to be called upon to speak. (Laughter.) But as the health of his father had been so kindly proposed, and received with such enthusiasm, he could not hesitate to return them his warmest thanks for the compliment. (Cheers.) His father had been a very old homœopathist, and, in his time, suffering as he did most acutely from tie-douloureux, he had adopted every kind of treatment, and applied to every practitioner, from Dr. Quin even down to St. John Long. (Laughter.) Unfortunately nothing had ever cured him, but he always said that he had never received so much relief from any other system as he had from homœopathic treatment. (Cheers.) However, with all their skill and talent, there was one thing he felt assured they could never effect, and that was, put his father on his legs again. (Immense laughter.)

Dr. Quin then rose amidst loud cheers, and said: I am aware the toast which I am about to propose is one which will require more power of language than I can lay claim to, but the duty which has been intrusted to me is too pleasing to allow of my shrinking from it. Gentlemen, for it is to you I address myself, this being the only toast of the evening which cannot be addressed to the Chair, the object of my rising is to endeavour to give expression to your feelings of gratification at being so ably and so efficiently presided over by the noble and gallant lord in the chair. (Long continued cheering.) However, as I know it would be distressing to the noble chairman were I to make him the sole topic of my observations, I will ask permission to diverge a little from the toast, and advert to other subjects of interest connected with the objects for which we are assembled. Our much-valued friend, Mr. Uwins, in proposing the health of the President and Vice-Presidents, has not said one word relative to the gallant marquis who fills the first-named office, or of the Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. Whately, the greatest logician of the day, in the propriety of which I do not fully agree. (Loud cheers.) Lord Alfred Paget, however,

in returning thanks for the toast, allowed his fancy to carry him a little beyond the strict letter of the truth, as it happens that his noble father never did submit to the rubbing process of St. John Long (loud laughter); and with regard to placing his leg on again, I am sure that neither Lord Alfred nor any of the noble and gallant Field Marshal's family would wish us to be able to do an act whereby so bright a relic of his noble father's chivalrous gallantry at the head of his troops should be lost in the history of England. (Loud cheers.) It may be in your recollection that, at our former meeting, in adverting to the blame that had been attempted to be cast upon us for opening a hospital before we had funds to endow and build one, I pointed out how much good might be done to the sick poor by a judicious outlay of £600 a year, and that I urged our friends not to hesitate in carrying out their project. Well, have not the statistics of the Hospital, as just announced by the noble chairman, furnished the most triumphant proof of the wisdom and philanthropy of the course we have pursued? It will be remembered that I was most ably followed in the same line of argument by a gentleman who, I regret to learn, is prevented by illness from being with us this evening, Mr. Witton, who, in a speech replete with eloquence and good sound sense, had most aptly remarked, "if we cannot have a cathedral, let us have a chapel, as that will at all events do some little good." (Cheers.) We have had our chapel, and a congregation amounting to nearly 1800 persons; and that we have done good has been shown by the results of our practice laid before you to-day. A great number have been restored to health, and a still larger number relieved. (Cheers.) I feel great happiness in having assisted in bringing about these results (cheers); and I cannot allow the opportunity to pass without thanking my colleagues for the kindness with which they have invariably co-operated with me. (Cheers.) Indeed the greatest harmony has always prevailed amongst all the officers of the Institution. We are also greatly indebted to the committee of management for the attention they have paid to the interests of the Institution; but, above all, we owe a debt of gratitude to our honorary secretary, Mr. Ralph Buchan (cheers); for willing as I am to give all due credit to the committee, and to its most excellent and efficient chairman (cheers), without the aid of Mr. Buchan, who has been most energetic and zealous in carrying out and watching over the operations of the Hospital, the same amount of good could not have been obtained. (Cheers.) I have great pleasure in stating that many members of the allopathic school have attended our Hospital, watched its progress, and fairly admitted that we have done some good, though they did not altogether give in their adhesion to homeopathic principles. Our system and principles were formerly treated with ridicule; but now a better spirit

prevails, and we are met with argument and reasoning, though the argument is founded on a false basis, and the reasoning drawn from erroneous deductions. (Cheers.) The learned doctor having given a humorous description of the ridicule with which their principles were formerly attacked, proceeded to say, that within the last few days £100 had been paid into the account of the Hospital at the bank, under the initials of A. Z.—the very alpha and omega of the alphabet. No doubt the person who sent that cheque—and from the writing it was evidently a lady—meant that other friends of the Institution should follow her benevolent example, and fill up other letters with £100 each. (Cheers and laughter.) He begged them to remember that there were twenty-six letters in the alphabet. He would also remind them that the letter Q had already done its duty; and moreover was prepared to put down another £100 whenever the other letters had done their duty. (Cheers and laughter.) But, returning to the toast he was about to propose, he would mention that, independently of his able conduct in the chair this evening, the noble marquis had other claims upon their respect and consideration. He had been a steady adherent of Homœopathy since the age of nine (cheers), so that, although young in years, the noble lord was a veteran in Homœopathy (cheers), and he (Dr. Quin) could give them no greater proof of his devotion to the cause and confidence in the practice, than by stating that his eldest born, his beloved son, the heir of his house, was at the present moment under his (Dr. Quin's) care. (Loud cheers.) Four generations of the House of Beaufort had already paid homage to the genius of Hahnemann, and shown their confidence in his doctrines. (Cheers.) The late duke, the present duke, the noble marquis in the chair, and his son, the young earl, had all been treated homœopathically. Like all of his race, the noble chairman came boldly forward to avow his principles, and to support the cause he had faith in, regardless of the obloquy such avowal and support might subject him to. In the battle field, in the senate, in the councils of their Sovereign, wherever danger was to be incurred or honour to be gained, a Somerset would ever be seen in the van. But also in the broader fields of science, the name borne by the noble chairman was not unknown to fame. Nearly two hundred years ago, a nobleman of great ingenuity and scientific acquirements discovered the power of steam, and published as early as 1663, in his work entitled "A Century of Inventions," a description of a steam-engine. Thus the germ of the machine, the most important ever invented by genius, the pride of the mechanic and the admiration of the philosopher, was due to the Marquis of Worcester, the ancestor of the noble chairman. The Marquis of that day was nearly two centuries in advance of his generation by his wonderful discovery of the great motive power of this day;

and so would the time come when the present Marquis of Worcester would be regarded as far in advance of his age, by his early and just appreciation of the great discoveries of Hahnemann. (Loud cheers.) Gentlemen (said Dr. Quin in conclusion), I call upon you to drink with all the honours, the health of our noble and gallant chairman, the Marquis of Worcester, and long may he continue to act up to the noble and characteristic motto of his House—“Mutare vel timere sperno.” (Loud and prolonged cheers.)

The Chairman having briefly acknowledged the compliment, and quitted the chair, in consequence of being compelled to attend the House of Commons, his seat was occupied by Mr. Culling Smith, the chairman of the Hospital.

The Rev. J. Burnet, in proposing the health of the Chairman and of the Board of Management, said that he was a sincere although a recent convert to the principles of Homœopathy, and that what had from the first impressed his mind in favour of the system was its gradual but steady progress. (Hear, hear.) Unlike any of those great shams, with which it was too often confounded, and which with meteoric rapidity ran their course heralded by announcements the most magnificent and full of pretensions, the doctrine of Hahnemann, pure, simple, and unpretending in its demeanour, had addressed itself to the intelligence of those who would listen or judge for themselves, and by a ready and straightforward setting forth of its facts and its remedies, had worked its way, step by step, to its present proud position. Like the great orb of day in its upward course, scattering those mists and darkness which had for a time obstructed his cheering and light-giving rays, Homœopathy had risen superior to those influences brought to bear against it, and in the same quiet and unobtrusive way was making known to the masses of our countrymen those great blessings God had appointed it to diffuse. (Cheers.) What Homœopathy could do, had been publicly demonstrated during the last year's proceedings of their small but flourishing Institution, and he was sure that he spoke the sentiments of all when he said that to the Board of Management and its chairman, Mr. Culling Smith, they were indebted for much of that success which the noble chairman had that night recorded. Institutions like theirs might be started, but he need hardly remind them that no institutions could succeed as theirs had done without a Board of Management, and one moreover which had wisely, economically, and efficiently for the interests of the subscribers, and for the comfort and welfare of the patients, discharged the duties intrusted to them; and further, he would say that no Board of Management, combining to the highest degree the requisites of efficiency and zeal, could continue its successful efforts, unless fully supported by those over whose interests they watched, and

of whose charity they were the dispensers. (Hear, hear.) From what they had that night learned of the proceedings of the gentlemen who superintended their Hospital, it was evident that they had the required efficiency in their Board of Management, and it was for the subscribers and friends of the charity to decide whether that efficiency was to be maintained unimpaired during the coming year. (Hear, hear.) The past history of Homœopathy had shown what great results might be obtained by infinitesimal doses of medicine, but although admitting the efficacy of such doses, he (Mr. Burnet) must protest against any other than the large and copious draughts of the old school, in their contributions to the Hospital funds. (Cheers and laughter.) The presence of so many of their friends of the gentler sex on this occasion, suggested the propriety of enlisting in the cause of the Hospital the ladies, whose combined efforts had produced such marvellous results in the establishment and support of all the great charities of our country. No great movement for the welfare of our race had been brought to a successful termination without the help of the ladies, and as the cause of the London Homœopathic Hospital was, in an especial manner, the cause of suffering humanity, he (Mr. Burnet) would appeal to the ladies present to lend their powerful aid for the support of the Institution. (Cheers.)

Mr. Burnet concluded a long and powerful appeal by proposing the health of Mr. Culling Smith and the Board of Management, which was drunk with all the honours.

Mr. Culling Smith acknowledged the toast, and said: As Chairman of your Board of Management I have the honour for myself, and in the names of my colleagues, to thank you, my lords and gentlemen, for the very cordial manner in which you have marked your approbation of our conduct. Gladly will I accept any share of it to which I feel myself entitled; but I am bound thus to publicly assure you, that the chief merit of all that has been accomplished is to be attributed to my excellent colleagues. Were large funds at command, the formation of an establishment fitted to the objects of “The London Homœopathic Hospital” might be easily attained by ordinary men of business; but it required all the perseverance, the scrutinising economy, and systematic energy of my colleagues in the Board of Management to have enabled us to effect the arrangement of the house, the formation of the establishment, and the opening of the Hospital for the reception of patients, on the very limited means at our command, and on that auspicious day, the “Anniversary of the birth of Hahnemann.” Our reverend and eloquent friend, in the touching appeal which he has made to the ladies who have done us the honour to be present at this commemoration, has so favorably urged the claims of this Hospital to their benevolent attention and active care, that I will not run a risk of weakening his powerful language by any at-

tempt on my part to support it; but I do promise this Society, that I will not fail to avail myself of the very useful suggestions thrown out by our learned supporter, and that I will look to those ladies, and confidently, for a successful result of the active exertions which they will, no doubt, make in our favour. (Loud cheers.) The character of our Hospital has been so fully, so clearly, so ably detailed to you by our noble chairman, that he has left me nothing further to add upon that subject. I will, therefore, repeat to you, my lords and gentlemen, the grateful thanks of your Board of Management for the honour you have done us, with an earnest assurance on our part of a zealous continuance of our services, in the ardent hope of improving our general position, and of deserving your future approbation. (Great applause.)

Mr. Buchan (the honorary secretary) then read the list of subscriptions and donations, which amounted to between £700 and £800.

Mr. Culling Smith, in rising to propose the health of the "Medical Officers of the Hospital," and "Prosperity to the British Homœopathic Society," then said: Associated as this Hospital is with the British Homœopathic Society, the health of this body is proposed to you in conjunction with our medical staff, because we feel confident that you will receive the toast with the greater cordiality when we state to you that your Board of Management has observed, with the utmost satisfaction, beneficial effects resulting from their union and from their harmonious alliance with the Hospital. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) It has appeared to your Board of Management that the progress and diffusion of Homœopathy, amongst professional men especially, has hereby been greatly advanced (hear, hear), in the facilities thus more readily afforded to enquirers. The Report submitted at our General Meeting yesterday will already have informed those of our supporters who were present, of the extent to which your benevolence has already afforded assistance and comfort and health, and, under the blessing of heaven, salvation of life, to many of the needy and suffering sick. Thus much the Report, which will be forwarded to all our friends and subscribers, will tell:—but it requires more eloquence than this official Report exhibits or I possess, to do justice to the medical and learned gentlemen who have gratuitously and zealously devoted their precious hours to the requirements of this Hospital. To judge adequately of their high merit, their daily attendance and their amiable and tender conduct towards the sick must have been closely observed (cheers), as it has been by your Board of Management (hear, hear); and the wards of the Hospital and the patients must have been visited in conjunction with these medical gentlemen,—as they have been by many of our benevolent and active subscribers—our noble chairman one of them. The details of the numbers of patients who have been admitted and treated in this Hospital have been so fully

stated to you by our noble chairman, that I need only refer to the Report (on this head) which was submitted to our subscribers and supporters yesterday at our General Meeting. I will, therefore, now close by proposing to you the health of the "Medical Officers of this Hospital," and "Prosperity to the British Homœopathic Society."

This toast having been accordingly drunk with every demonstration of respect—

Mr. Yeldham rose and said: I regret that the task I rise to perform has not fallen into abler hands. Any one of my esteemed colleagues would do more ample justice to the compliment you have just paid us than I can. (No.) There is one gentleman in particular, to whom, from the prominent position he holds in the Homœopathic world, and from being the President of the British Homœopathic Society, your thoughts must revert as the legitimate representative of the Medical Staff. It is not, I know, owing to any lukewarmness on his part (hear, hear), or indifference to your favor, that the task of replying to this toast does not devolve upon him, but to that good taste and good feeling which renders it a greater pleasure to him to see another filling the post of honor than to fill it himself. The British Homœopathic Society, to which allusion has been made, was established several years ago for the double purpose of diffusing scientific knowledge, and of maintaining the just reputation of Homœopathic practitioners in the eyes of their professional brethren and of the public. I believe it has answered these purposes admirably. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) That it has done so is due to its having admitted only those who could produce the diploma of a recognised university or college, and upon whose moral and professional character there was no known stain. (Hear.) Hence it has always been considered an honorable distinction to belong to this Society; and, in making it a fundamental rule of your Hospital, that your medical officers shall be elected from among its members, if you do not ensure the largest possible amount of talent, you ensure what in the present state of Homœopathy is not of less importance, viz., that they shall be honorable and respectable men and legally qualified members of the profession. (Hear, and they are.) Were I speaking for myself only, as one of the medical officers of the Hospital, I should feel bound to say, that the gentleman who, in proposing our health, has spoken of our services in such flattering terms, has overrated their value. (No! no!) Be this as it may, I do not hesitate to assert that he cannot overrate our zeal. (Hear.) It would indeed be affectation in me to deny that, without a large share of zeal and enthusiasm, it would be difficult for men who, like your medical officers, are fully occupied in private practice, to make that heavy sacrifice of time and labor which the discharge of their public duties necessarily involves. (Applause.) We feel, however, that our position is no ordinary one, and de-

mands of us no ordinary sacrifice. We are fully conscious of the responsibility devolving upon us as your representatives in carrying out the greatest of modern reforms. (Hear.) The establishment of the London Homœopathic Hospital, in the centre of this metropolis, in the very heart and core as it were of Allopathy—almost within sight of the College of Physicians, the College of Surgeons, and the Apothecaries' Company—insignificant as in itself it may appear when viewed in relation to its probable results, is nothing short of a "great fact." (Loud and continued cheering.) Our Allopathic brethren understand this, and fully appreciate its importance. (Hear, hear.) If we succeed—and succeed we assuredly shall—they behold in our hospital the small cloud in the horizon which portends the coming storm, that involves the overthrow of their long-cherished system. (Loud applause.) If we fail—as they confidentially predict we shall—(no, never!) I need not tell you how loud would be their shout of triumph. Such an event, though it could not stop the onward march of truth, would be a "heavy blow and great discouragement" to the good cause. Whether our hospital shall succeed or not depends, of necessity, mainly upon the support it may receive from the public; but this I will say, that it shall not for want of such hearty professional co-operation as your medical officers can afford it. (Loud cheers.) I have said that Homœopathy is a great reform. (Hear, hear.) I cannot sit down without referring to a fact, which alone would establish its claim to that title. In the last number but one of the *Hahnemannian Fly-Sheet*, there is an account of the consumption and annual cost of drugs at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. It is taken from Dickens' "Household Words," and is headed "Drugs by the Ton."

Amongst other items we find the following: 2000lbs. weight of castor oil; 1000lbs. weight of senna; 27ewt. of salts; 29,700 leeches: the total cost in twelve months being £2,600! (Laughter and cheers.) On the opposite page, as if in derision of this monstrous statement, we have the financial Report of the London Homœopathic Hospital, showing the dispensary expenses, which include medicines, to be only £11 4s. 7d. (Loud and continued cheering.) This, it is true, is only for half a year; but allowing for this, and the difference in the number of patients at the two establishments, what a contrast does it present! We may safely assert, that if St. Bartholomew's were conducted on homœopathic principles, its drug bill, instead of 26 hundred, would not exceed two hundred pounds. (Hear, hear.) Extend this calculation to the other hospitals and dispensaries in London, and you may form some idea how much greater an amount of good will be effected by the same amount of money, when the doctrines of Hahnemann shall have taken the place of those of Hippocrates. Truly it is a glorious reform in which we are engaged (renewed

cheers), and though the privilege of witnessing its full consummation is doubtless reserved for future generations, I would not exchange it, if I could, for the still greater privilege which we enjoy of being its pioneers. (Loud and continued cheering hailed the close of Mr. Yeldham's speech, in the midst of which he resumed his seat.)

The health of the ladies and other toasts having been drunk, the party broke up about half-past eleven o'clock.

[For the American Journal of Homœopathy.]

*The Lesser Writings of Hahnemann*, Collected and Translated by R. E. Dudgeon, M. D., with a Preface and Notes by E. E. Marey, M. D., author of "*The Homœopathic Theory and Practice*." New York, William Radde, 1852. Price \$3.

The appearance of this volume cannot fail to be generally gratifying to readers of Homœopathic literature. Besides its interest in a literary point of view, as a fund of practical thought and intelligent opinions on an extended range of subjects immediately or collaterally relating to the healing art, it possesses the altogether peculiar value of presenting before us the founder of modern medicine in a personal aspect, displaying the characteristics of his thought, feeling and action, with a minuteness and fidelity which, being portrayed by himself, we seek for vainly in biographical description, while the desultory character of many of the papers confers an intimacy with the author bordering on actual acquaintanceship.

Grave or light, however, we find the force, independence and originality which belongs to genius. Throughout stands the impress of that iron firmness, untiring activity and unsalting conviction which constituted the leading elements of his greatness and which have rendered Homœopathy not merely a beautiful theory but a splendid practical fact—a fact which none but a reformer of the obdurate temper which nerved a Luther, Galileo or Harvey could have brought to immediate recognition. A marked difference is observable between the essays written prior to the confirmation of the law, similia similibus, and those penned at a later date; in the former we perceive the labors of a perfective mind through the mazes of conjecture towards the formulæ of science, in the latter the calm superiority of a man, impressed with a great idea, conscious of

its power and sanguine of its success. It is not necessary to display here the merits of the individual articles of this collection; the most interesting are probably the series which first made their appearance in Hahnemann's *Materia Medica Pura*. Of these the "spirit of the Homœopathic doctrine" deserves especial mention for its frank, manly and perspicuous statement of the new method—indeed it is simple justice to say that although this thesis was written forty years ago it is still the best on the subject yet extant. The "Nota bene for my Reviewers" and the "Examination of the Sources of the Ordinary *Materia Medica*" teem with wit and sarcasm and show their writer to have been fully equal to wield the lighter weapons so unsparingly directed against his infant art by his opponents. In the present prosperous condition of Homœopathy it is difficult to realise the amount of moral courage it must have required to maintain it in the face of venerable institutions, the authority of great names and the pungent arrows of ridicule. The genius of Hahnemann stemmed all these obstacles, with a skill and energy which conducted his discovery and himself to renown, not tardy and posthumous as had been the fate of a timid innovator, but personal and stamped with laurels self-placed upon his brow.

Dr. Dudgeon deserves the thanks of his colleagues for presenting the matter of this volume in good, readable English—its occasional faults will be sympathetically forgiven by all who have attempted to translate Hahnemann's involved, intricate style into our mother tongue.

It is a matter of regret that Dr. Marcy's participation in the American edition cannot be spoken of equally favourably. A trashy, after-dinner preface of four pages and a page and a quarter of notes interspersed through a scientific volume of nearly eight hundred pages are an imperfect justification of the flaunting title. Dr. M. is an enterprising young physician and has given out a clever work on practice, but a few hasty notes of scarcely more importance to a work than so many barnacles to a ship's bottom are decidedly not the avenue to a literary reputation. Most Homœopathists at least venerate Hahnemann too much to wish his arduous labors so flippantly treated, and would, I dare say, willingly consign these addenda to the wallet, wherein Time "puts alms for oblivion."

JOSEPH T. CURTIS, M.D.

## ALLOPATHY AND HER PRACTITIONERS.

The following, from the *London Morning Chronicle* of September 1st, 1849, has been on hand a long time, and delayed from appearing in our columns for want of room. We think it too good to be lost, as it illustrates what we have often said of Allopathy, and her practitioners.

The New York Academy of Medicine, we believe, had the same subject under discussion, at about the same time, and with almost equal ability; but the Academy avoided, which is remarkable for that *clique*, taking a vote, as did the South-London Medical Society.

Among the works ascribed to MARTINUS SCRIBLERUS is one entitled "A Complete Digest of the Laws of Nature, with a review of those laws that are obsolete or have been repealed."

The idea of repealing the laws of nature—of passing an Act, as it were, against the further operation of "cause and effect"—strikes the mind as the perfection of absurdity. But ridiculous as the conceit appears, it is positively rational when compared with the notion of discovering the phenomena of a disease by putting the matter to the vote—or, in other words, taking a show of hands, as was positively done at the recent meeting of the South-London Medical Society, in order to ascertain whether the Cholera is contagious or not. "An eminent physician," says D'ALEMBERT, "renouncing a practice which he had carried on for thirty years, exclaimed, 'I am weary of guessing,'" and Dr. ABERCROMBIE informs us that a medical gentleman—"a man of wit and philosophy"—illustrates the uncertainty of the science of medicine by the following apologue:—"Nature," says he, "is fighting with a disease. A blind man armed with a club, called a physician, comes to settle the difference. He first tries to make peace; when he cannot accomplish this, he lifts his club and strikes at random—if he strikes the disease he kills the disease, if he strikes nature he kills nature." But though we are well aware that medicine does not take rank among "the certain sciences," still we did not believe it to be so purely a matter of chance that the ballot-box was considered by its members to be as conclusive a means of settling doubtful questions as are the criteria usually employed in the more exact sciences—viz., observation, analysis, and experiment. We had no notion that physic rivalled its sister science—the law—in its "glorious uncertainty." Nor could we imagine, until we read the account of the proceedings at the adjourned meeting of the South-London Medical Society, that the best known means of arriving at a conclusion as to the communicability of the present epidemic was

by drawing up a resolution that it should be uncommunicable, and leaving it to the *sense* (!) of the meeting to determine whether such should be the law or not. It is true we are told that, on the question being put by the sagacious Chairman, the "show of hands was equal for and against" the proposition. But suppose "the ayes had had it"—suppose the members had willed that the disease should be communicable (*la société le veut*), then, of course, the following egregious record of self-stultification must have been formally entered on the books—"RESOLVED: That the Cholera henceforth be contagious."

And this is the meeting which complains of having been misrepresented by the press! "It had been stated as if said in that room," observed Mr. HILTON, the chairman, "that they knew nothing about the cholera, and that no treatment had been found successful. But," he added, "when it was said they did not know anything about cholera, it was merely meant that they had not attained to that *deep diagnosis* of the disease which would enable a practical man to say and show what it was. And when it was said that no treatment for the disease had been found, that was an expression also which must be taken with limitation." The very next speaker, however, contradicts all that the Chairman had taken such pains to impress upon the public, and declares, point-blank, that "they never could cure the cholera ---they might as well," he said, "pour medicine inside the hat before him for any effect it would have during the stage of collapse." It is true the Chairman trembles at the confession of such utter impotency of treatment, and seeks to give "a professional limitation" to the expression; but in vain, for presently, to the Chairman's greater horror, up jumps Dr. CRISP, and states positively that "they did not know what cholera was." Again the Chairman interposes with "a limitation," and observes that he considers this "a mere speculative point;" but the doctor undaunted, proceeds to inform the members that he perfectly agrees with the previous speaker "as to the incurableness of cholera in a state of collapse." After him comes Dr. GULL, with the declaration "that in a state of collapse the large doses of calomel they were in the habit of giving might as well be put in a bladder as in the intestines;" and next Dr. LLOYD, taking up the same figure, asserts, that "in collapse calomel might as well be put into a bag as the human stomach."

Nor do the members appear to have improved, since the previous meeting, in their notions as to the mode of treating the disease even in its milder form. Mr. MITCHELL, for instance, declares that "he has found the application of the wet sheet almost invariably successful;" but "wet sheets," in Dr. LLOYD's experience, "have been a complete failure." The same gentlemen "will not cast opium overboard." Dr. LEADHAM, however, is of a

totally different opinion, and is "thoroughly convinced that opium is bad." The latter physician is an advocate for calomel, either in large doses repeated every half hour, or in small ones administered every five minutes---whereas Dr. GULL thinks that the pouring in of calomel in large doses is ineffectual. But Dr. CRISP, on the other hand, states that he has given as many as 200 grains to a child with success. One medical gentleman is for an emetic of 25 grains of ipecacuanha. Another prescribes "equal proportions of cayenne pepper, tormental root, and powdered gum myrrh." A third advocates "camphor drops," and is satisfied with the result of Homœopathy—while a fourth is for "cold air, cold drink, and mercury."

Concerning the cause of the disease the same diversity of opinion seemed to prevail. Dr. LLOYD believed, in the first part of his speech, that the disease arose from some peculiar atmospheric influence—and in the middle, that it was mainly attributable, in one particular locality, to hydro-sulphate of ammonia, which he had discovered in the water of the neighborhood. Mr. ROBINSON was of opinion that the disease was caused by poison in the air, because—they had had no hard winter for the last two years! Mr. HICKS—who appears to have studied logic in the same school as the last-named gentleman—was convinced that the disease was not contagious, *on account of* the peculiar state of the atmosphere for some years back! Dr. DENDY, who was of opinion that "much of their apparent discrepancy arose, from the want of the definition of terms," attributed the disease to "malaria;" but he forgot to define what particular state of the atmosphere he meant by the term; whereas Dr. CRISP—apparently the most sensible man of the assembly—boldly declared that *they did not know what the cholera was*. This, we must confess, is precisely the conclusion that we ourselves have come to. We fear that the society is too anxious that the opposite opinion should go abroad, for it to afford us much enlightenment upon this most abstruse and vital question. To be sensible of our ignorance upon any particular subject is to be on the high road to wisdom; and to dare to confess our want of information exhibits a moral courage and a desire for knowledge that constitute the peculiar attributes of the philosopher.

We make the above remarks with the view of again drawing attention to the utter ignorance that prevails as to the nature and treatment of an affliction which is every day growing more and more terrible amongst us; and we do this in order that all those who have it in their power, by patient observation and cautious generalisation, to discover the circumstances which originate and develop the disease, may first divest their minds of all idle preconceived theories on the subject, and go to the work as the humble interpreters of Nature,

prepared rather to follow the facts up to their universal laws than to force them into agreement with empty foregone conclusions. Whether the pestilence now scourging our country has really a zymotic, an electrical, or a meteorological origin—whether it is caused and diffused by some noxious gas in the atmosphere, by a deficiency of electricity, or by a superabundance of moisture, coupled with a deficiency of ventilation, it is impossible to say positively. In order to determine what conditions are necessary for the propagation of the pestilence, we must have recourse to the only three known methods of scientific discovery—observation, analysis, and experiment. All we can do is to direct attention to the uncertainty and vagueness of the opinions at present entertained upon this most important of subjects, in the hope of freeing the mind of all vain hypotheses—which have ever proved obstacles rather than helps to knowledge—and of arousing the energies of our philosophers, so that we may be able effectually to stop the spread of a pestilence which is striking down our fellow-creatures by hundreds every day. It is a national disgrace that so little is done to discover the necessary conditions of the disease. Of talk and speculation there is a superabundance—but of sound scientific investigation, of subtle analysis, and of conclusive experiment, there is a most lamentable deficiency. Where are our chemists, our meteorologists, our electricians, our anatomists? Surely, with our profound knowledge of the science of discovery—with the delicate instruments we have now at our command for the observation and collection of facts—and with the many wise minds among us skilled in the translation of those facts into philosophic truths—we need not and ought not to remain thus shamefully ignorant of a question upon which so many lives depend.

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[For the American Journal of Homœopathy.]

NEW-YORK, Nov. 9, 1851.

Dr. KIRBY—

DEAR SIR,—I perceive that in the last number of your journal you have done me the honor of quoting me on the subject of Hydrophobia, of the virtues of which I have always entertained such encouraging opinions as came the nearest to a full conviction. I have not the least recollection of the communication inserted by you as mine; but I am pleased, much pleased, that your attention has been drawn in that direction. The analogical fact you state in favor of the promises of that remedy, enforces powerfully my strong positions in "Homœopathia Revealed," and will, I trust, produce its full effects upon the public mind. You say you have not tried it, for want, as I

presume, of opportunity; but that is no reason why it should not be *proved*, and brought into immediate use, as its great potency of poison, overpowering all others known, may probably supply the greatest remedy yet to be found at Homœopathia's disposal. Think of this, dear doctor, and do your best to induce some youthful zealous student, full of health and vigor, to *prove* it, and thus do away the stigma of cowardice from the profession, shrinking in this instance from the first of duties inculcated by their glorious system. But for the peculiar state of my nerves, much shattered and enfeebled by repeated shocks, I would have long since proved it on myself. Your conclusion that, as far as you know, this remedy has not yet been brought to the test, cheers me prospectively, but fills my heart with grief and indignation, that those who had so many chances for the wished-for trial not only spurned it but gave preference to chloroform, after repeated proofs that this new agent, when applied to Hydrophobic patients, *cures* only by killing!!!

ALEXIS EUSTAPHIEVE.

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*Inaugural Address*, delivered before the Rhode Island Homœopathic Society, by J. Barrows, M. D., President of the Society, 1851. This address is creditable to its author, so it strikes us, on a cursory reading. We have no room for extracts in this number.

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Several months ago we received an able production in pamphlet form by Dr. W. W. Rodman, of Waterbury, Ct., which has escaped from our office; therefore we cannot notice the work as we intended. Will Dr. R. please send us another copy?

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*The New-York Medical Times*, edited by Dr. J. G. Adams, Secretary of the New-York Academy of Medicine, has been got up, we have been informed, to supersede *The New-York Medical Gazette*, for it seems the Gazette cannot be used to suit the purposes of certain members of the Academy. What those purposes are we do not know, but no doubt in due time they will be shadowed forth in the *Times*. We are surprised at this information, for we really believed the Gazette ready to do any of the work of the Academy clique.

## LONDON HOMOEOPATHIC HOSPITAL,

*Founded by the British Homœopathic Association October 10th, 1849, opened for the reception of patients, April 10th, 1850.*

*Patroness.*

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge.

*Vice Patron.*

His Grace the Duke of Beaufort, K. G.

*President.*

Field Marshal the Marquis of Anglesey, K. G., G. C. B.

*Vice Presidents.*

His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin.

The Most Noble the Marquis of Worcester.

Rt. Hon. the Earl of Essex.

Rt. Hon. the Viscount Sydney.

Rt. Hon. the Lord Gray.

The Viscount Maldon.

Lord Francis Gordon.

Capt. Lord C. Paget, R. N., M. P.

Capt. Lord A. Paget, M. P.

Col. Lord G. Paget, M. P.

Col. Wyndham.

F. Foster Quin, Esq. M. D.

Marinaduke B. Sampson, Esq.

*Medical Officers.*

Dr. Quin, Dr. Hamilton, Dr. Massol. Dr. Partridge, *Physician and Accoucheur*. Mr. Yeldham, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. McKern. Mr. Leadam, *Surgeon Accoucheur*. Mr. Young, *Assistant Surgeon*. Also five Trustees; a Board of Management consisting of twenty-five persons; and a *Medical Council* of twenty-four Physicians and Surgeons.

In view of the fact, that this Hospital is supported entirely by voluntary contributions from the friends of Homœopathy, the prosperity of this Institution is cheering to the advocates of a true healing art.

The following is a summary of the results of cases treated in the Hospital from 10th of April, 1850 to March 31st, 1851:

|                                                          |      |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Total number of patients received,                       | 1703 |
| " in-patients received,                                  | 156  |
| " cured or convalescent,                                 | 67   |
| " relieved,                                              | 29   |
| " deaths,                                                | 6    |
| " left the Hospital before any result could be obtained, | 3    |

|                                          |      |
|------------------------------------------|------|
| " discharged unaltered,                  | 1    |
| " under treatment,                       | 20   |
| Total number of out-patients registered, | 1547 |
| " discharged cured,                      | 554  |
| " do. relieved,                          | 407  |
| " do. apparently uncurable,              | 13   |
| " admitted as in-patients,               | 25   |
| " deceased,                              | 3    |
| " result unknown,                        | 10   |
| " ceased to attend,                      | 178  |
| " still under treatment,                 | 357  |

We have no room for the nosological analysis of the above. Of the 156 admitted into the Hospital, about two fifths were cases of long standing of a chronic or sub-acute type, in whom acute diseases had supervened. They had been subjected to Allopathic treatment for their chronic complaints, at different hospitals or dispensaries in London or in the provinces; and both as regards this complicated class, and also as regards the larger class of simple acute cases, it has been admitted by several highly qualified Allopathic practitioners engaged in general hospital practice, that on examination the disorders treated decidedly presented a fair average of severe hospital cases.

The average mortality in the London Homœopathic Hospital is three-eighths per cent on the total admitted as in-patients, or about one-half per cent on the whole of the 1703 cases treated; and the average length of time under treatment in the Hospital was under thirty days.

In 1850, in eleven of the general hospitals of London, the patients remained, on an average, thirty-four days in hospital; 29,161 passed through the wards; and the mortality was therefore 7·54 per cent, in the thirty-four days. About ninety-two in one hundred who enter leave the London Hospitals alive. In the Homœopathic Hospital the average is only one death in two hundred patients.

When will the friends of Homœopathy in the city of New-York bestir themselves, and establish a Homœopathic Hospital? 150,000 dollars could be raised in this city in six months if a few gentlemen whom we could name would undertake the work. That amount, perhaps less, would be sufficient to establish a Hospital, and it would be of more value in spreading a knowledge of a true healing art, than twenty colleges. Come then, ye ladies and gentlemen of wealth in New-York, who have for years experienced the superiority of

Homœopathic practice in yourselves and families, awake to the vast importance of a Homœopathic Hospital in the city of New-York and let the good work be begun immediately. The sick-poor need such an institution, many wealthy persons who come to this city for Homœopathic treatment need hospital accommodations, strangers who are taken sick while visiting our city would gladly avail themselves of hospital; and the results of the treatment would give an impetus to our science and art which cannot be accomplished so well in any other way. The value of a system of healing must necessarily be ascertained slowly by private practice, but in a public institution well conducted in this city, the evidence of the superiority of the Homœopathic treatment would be overwhelming.

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# THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMOEOPATHY.

*"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."*

VOL. 6.

NEW-YORK, JANUARY, 1852.

NO. 9.

S. R. KIRBY, M.D., EDITOR.

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## American Journal of Homœopathy.

NEW-YORK, JANUARY, 1852.

### MAGNETOID CURRENTS,

*Their forces and directions; with a description of the Magnetoscope, and a series of experiments.*

This is the title of a work which will soon appear in London. We are in possession of an imperfect description of the instrument entitled as above, which is the invention of Mr. Rutter, of Black Rock, Brighton. We shall not, therefore, at this time attempt to describe the instrument, but will do so hereafter; but we are happy to have it in our power to lay before the readers of this journal some of the numerous experiments of Mr. Rutter, assisted by several literary gentlemen; among these were Drs. Quin and Madden, of London, and of the homœopathic school. Several lectures have been delivered by Dr. Quin, in the London Homœopathic Hospital, before large and intelligent audi-

ences, in which he made known some very remarkable experiments which he and others witnessed and participated in.

Dr. Quin says:

For the great good which will inevitably arise from this important discovery, we are indebted to a gentleman of great scientific acquirements and experience, Mr. Rutter, of Black Rock, Brighton, who is the inventor of the instrument I am about to describe, which demonstrates the different currents of electricity that pass through various parts of the human frame, when in contact with the earth, and under the influence of terrestrial electricity. By means of this instrument, the inventor has been enabled to discover not only the various normal effects of the different electrical currents which exist in the body, but likewise a variety of modifications and changes which these currents undergo, when the hand of the operator is brought in contact with the thumb, index, or hand of another person; with inanimate matter, with a variety of different metals, with vegetable and animal substances; also the alterations which different medicinal substances produce upon these currents. Mr. Rutter is not only able to demonstrate, in the most satisfactory manner, the polarisation of our bodies, and those parts where the north and south poles are situated, but likewise the alterations which take place from change of position from the vertical and sitting position to the recumbent, as also those which take place from other circumstances hereafter to be mentioned.

He is also able to demonstrate most clearly the difference between the male and female currents; and that the latter are generally in an inverse or antagonistic state to those of man; also, that certain positions of the arms and hands arrest the effects of these currents upon the instrument.

Dead animal matter, brought into contact with the hand of the operator, or with any person, or any number of persons forming a chain by holding one another by

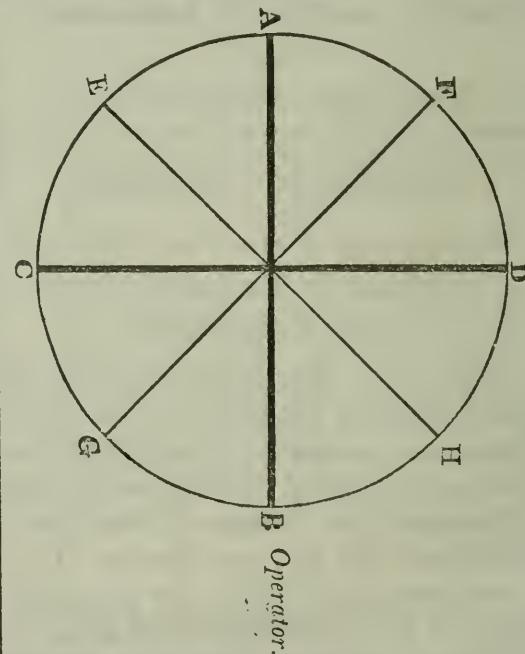
the hand, the one nearest the operator holding his hand, and the dead matter being put into the hand of the person most remote from him, almost immediately stops the movements produced on the instrument by the electric current. Mr. Rutter has, however, carried his discoveries still further; for he has ascertained, and is able to prove most unerringly, that noxious matter, whether animal or vegetable effluvia, or miasms, or mineral or vegetable poisons, in fact, all substances capable of producing death, have the same power of stopping the action of the instrument, as I have just described dead matter to have. All the experiments were conducted in the most simple and unpretending manner, and were explained in the most lucid and unequivocal language. They were repeated over and over again at the wish of several of the persons present, and the results were each time unvarying and unerring, so as to carry conviction to all who witnessed them, even the most sceptical.

Mr. Rutter, who is a man, as you may suppose, of great scientific knowledge, leaves no loophole for scepticism; the beautiful series of experiments made by him all tending to corroborate and affirm one another. The instrument is so subtle, and the demonstration so clear, whilst the experiments are at the same time so delicate and exact, the same cause repeated invariably producing the same effect, that no one can resist the positive evidence of the undeviating action of this scientific and truly philosophical instrument. To prove that the effects produced upon the pendulum are the result of terrestrial electricity, influencing the instrument through the body of the operator, he first sets the instrument in action whilst standing on the ground; he then, after it is in full motion, insulates himself by standing upon a stool with glass legs, when the action of the instrument immediately stops. One hand is then put in communication with an electric machine, when the action is immediately resumed; the communication is again cut off, and the action ceases. A person standing on the ground is then desired to touch the hand of the operator, when the movement of the instrument recommences; the hands are separated, and the motion again stops. A piece of silk thread is then put round the wrist of the operator, and the other end or the ball of silk, of which the thread round his arm is part, is allowed to be upon the ground, forming a communication with the terrestrial electricity, and the motion of the instrument is immediately again set a-going.

On the thread being cut or unwound from the wrist, the motion ceases, no vibration or oscillation is perceptible; but immediately on the operator descending from the insulating stool, and coming in contact with the ground, the instrument feels his influence, and the motion commences.

To enable our readers to form an idea of the experiments as about to be related, we present them with a diagram; and if they will suppose a silk thread with an oval-shaped piece of sealing wax attached to one end of it, and suspended directly over the centre of the diagram, they will readily understand the different motions detailed in the experiments.

The manner in which the operator is put in communication with the instrument, is by placing his finger and thumb one on each side of the brass top of the stand, and slightly holding it. In a very few seconds, the pendulum, or weight attached to the silk thread, is seen to have several oscillatory movements, till it finally moves round in a circle from left to right, or in the direction on the diagram of from B round to H. This circulatory motion



Mr. Rutter denominates the normal or natural action of the electric current when not disturbed by extraneous causes. The pendulum continues to go round in a circle from left to right as long as the finger and thumb are in contact with the instrument. If the operator's index is alone left in contact with it, the thumb being removed, the circulatory motion almost immediately ceases, and the weight takes the

motion of a clock pendulum, moving in the direction of from D to C on the diagram. Then if the thumb of the operator is alone left in contact with the instrument, and the index removed, the weight changes its direction, and makes a direct cross with the movement last described, and moves in the direction of from B to A; this motion continues as long as the thumb alone is touching the instrument. Then if the forefinger is closed against the instrument, and it is held slightly between the thumb and finger, the normal rotatory motion from left to right, or from B round to H, again takes place, and continues to move in the same direction as long as the operator holds the instrument between the index and the thumb. I was then requested by Mr. Rutter to put my index on his left hand, when the rotatory motion began immediately to change into the pendulum action, as from D to C. When this action was well established, I was requested to place my thumb on his left hand, he all the time holding the instrument between his forefinger and thumb, when the pendulum motion changed, making a cross with the movement last described, and passing to and fro from B to A. My whole hand being then placed on the left hand of the operator, the weight immediately changed and moved from F to G. When my thumb was placed on the left hand of the operator, he holding his right thumb in contact with the instrument, the action was neutralised.

Another curious and interesting phenomenon was now demonstrated by Mr. Rutter. If a person of the female sex puts the index or forefinger on the operator's hand, the pendulum, instead of moving as when the index of a male is in contact with the hand, from D to C, moves from B to A. When the female thumb touches the hand of the operator, instead of moving from B to A, as in the case of the male thumb, the pendulum immediately moves from D to C; and when the whole hand of a female is placed on the hand of the operator, the movement becomes circulatory in the direction of from B round to G, that is, from right to left, the exact reverse of the normal motion.

The next experiment was one of great interest, and exemplified in a beautiful and indisputable manner the experiment to which I alluded in a former part of the evening, viz., the instrument being stopped by the operator when put in contact with dead animal matter. After having put the instrument in full normal action by applying the finger and thumb of the right hand,

a dead fly being put on his left hand the motion of the pendulum immediately ceased; on the fly being taken away, the motion recommenced. A chain of several men, holding one another by the hand, was formed; a female placed her hand on that of the man most remote from the operator; the motion of the instrument was immediately reversed, the circulatory motion being from right to left. A dead fly was then put upon the left hand of the female, and the motion immediately stopped.

A wire of copper, 500 feet long, encased in gutta percha, was then added to the chain of men—the one farthest from the operator held one end of the wire, and the female the other end; the female influence was immediately sent through both the wire and chain of men, and a corresponding action was again set up; which was again stopped immediately by the dead fly being put upon the other hand. Similar experiments were made with other dead matter; even merely by holding the hand over or near the dead matter, the aura of which equally stopped the motion.

When Mr. Rutter wishes to stop the motion of the pendulum, so as to pass to another experiment, he usually takes a piece of ivory in the left hand, and stops the motion immediately. If a person of the female sex merely breathes upon the hand of the operator, it immediately changes the current to the female; if a man breathes upon her hand, her other hand being in contact with the operator, the male influence is immediately perceived on the pendulum. If a hair of a female is placed on the hand of the operator, or the hand of the last of any number of men in contact with him, the female current is immediately produced. The same phenomenon is produced by a pocket-handkerchief worn by a lady.

The next set of experiments performed by Mr. Rutter were to prove the polarisation of the body. This was beautifully and most satisfactorily demonstrated, by placing a permanent steel magnet upon the table in the direction north and south. On placing the hand over the south pole of the magnet, the normal current was produced, and when over the north pole, it came to a dead stop. If the hand is then put within the sphere of the magnet, but to the left or west, the pendulum moves from F to G; and when put on the right or east, it moves from E to H, and again put to the north pole, the instrument stops.

Then, if one hand of the operator is put to the back of the head of a person stand-

ing near him, the current is normal, but if put to the forehead, the motion immediately ceases, proving the south and north poles to be in the back and fore part of the head. If the hand is then put on the right shoulder, the action is normal, but if to the left shoulder, the action is reversed, and acts as the female current. In the recumbent posture the north pole leaves the forehead, and takes refuge in the diaphragm. Bringing the hand of the operator in contact with the forehead no longer now stops the instrument, but if he places the hand over the diaphragm, the motion immediately ceases.

Another extraordinary fact is, that the magnetic currents are reversed below the pelvis, the right leg having the same action as the left arm, and the left leg the same action as the right. Again, these change when the body is vertical, and when it is recumbent. These experiments were most satisfactorily proved over and over again, on different individuals in the upright and recumbent positions.

We now come to another class of experiments, a class particularly interesting and important to medical men, viz., the effects upon the electric currents by different metals, and I beg you carefully to bear in mind the different actions of the pendulum whilst under each metal.

After the instrument had been put into the normal motion, a considerable piece of *Tin* was put into the operator's left hand, the normal action was immediately changed into the pendulum action from B to A.

The normal action was again set a-going on the *Tin* being taken away, and some *Fluid Mercury* was put into the operator's hand. The normal motion was immediately changed from H to E.

A piece of *Copper* changed the normal action into the female current, reversing the circle.

A large piece of *Zinc* changed it from H to E.

A piece of *Iron* gave an elliptical motion from H to E.

A *Platina* chain changed the motion from B to A.

A piece of *Lead* from D to C.

Mr. Rutter then showed the action of *Chalk*, which produced an elliptical action from E to H, exactly the reverse of the *Iron*, which was from H to E.

A large piece of *Flint* changed the normal motion to one from H to E.

A piece of *Phosphorus* immediately caused a total cessation of the motion.

After the normal action was produced, *Iodine* stopped it immediately.

A piece of *Ammonia* immediately set the normal action going, and increased it considerably above the natural force.

Some *Table Salt* reversed it, giving the reverse current.

The *Ammonia* was again put into the operator's hand, when the normal action in full vigour was again produced. A small piece of horse-dung put in the same hand with the *Ammonia*, immediately counteracted its action, and stopped the motion.

Now, gentlemen, I feel certain that you have perceived that it was not without an object that I requested Mr. Rutter to have the kindness to experiment before me and the persons present, upon the above metals and other substances, the whole of them being materials from which we extract some of our most valuable medicines. *Stannum* (*tin*), *Mercury*, *Cuprum* (*copper*), *Zincum*, *Ferrum* (*iron*), *Platina*, *Plumbum* (*lead*), *Calcarea* (*chalk*), *Silicea* (*flint*), *Phosphorus*, *Iodium* (*iodine*), *Natrum muriaticum* (*salt*), and *Ammonia*, are all homœopathic remedies familiar to most of our patients.

No one, whether lay or medical, who believes in homœopathy, could witness Mr. Rutter's beautiful and delicate experiments with the dead fly, the hair of a female, the handkerchief, the aura from dead matter, and other substances, and not immediately feel convinced that he had at the same time, by his brilliant discovery, settled the question of the infinitesimal doses employed in homœopathy possessing influence. So obvious, so self-evident is this, that the Earl of Belfast, the instant he saw an experiment made by Mr. Rutter upon some gold, exclaimed, "Oh! gold is employed in homœopathy. Pray test some globules of *Aurum* upon the instrument." His lordship, who has for a considerable time been a patient of mine, will tell you that he immediately felt that Mr. Rutter had removed the great stumbling-block to the progress of homœopathy. The same idea must occur to you all, as did to every one at all acquainted with homœopathy.

Well, one globule of *Stannum*, of the fourth attenuation, was placed by me in the palm of the hand (that being the most sensitive part) of Mr. Rutter, after he had set the instrument in action. The pendulum went immediately, moving from B to A with as quick and as strong a motion as when the same metal in mass was put into his hand. One globule of *Mercur. sol.* 12, changed the action, and the pendulum went from H to E.

One globule of *Cuprum* 30, reversed the

normal action, and produced the reverse current.

One globule of *Zincum* 30, sent the pendulum from H to E.

One globule of *Zincum* 200, did the same.

One globule of *Zincum* 200, dissolved in one ounce of water, and a drop of this solution put into Mr. Rutter's hand, produced exactly the same result, both when the instrument was in repose and in action.

One globule of *Ferrum metallicum* 6, gave exactly the same elliptical motion described above as produced by the *Iron* in mass. (*Sulphate of Iron* was also tried in mass, with precisely the same result.)

One globule of *Ferrum aceticum* 3, gave the same elliptical motion, only rather a stronger movement to the pendulum.

One globule of *Platina* 3, moved the pendulum in the direction from B to A.

*Plumbum* 30, one globule, caused it to move backwards and forwards from D to C.

*Calcarea carbonica* 30, one globule, gave the reverse of the elliptical motion of *Iron*, and moved it from E to H, as the *Chalk* did above.

One globule of *Calc. carb.* 200, had exactly the same effect.

*Silicea* 30, one globule, changed the motion to one from H to E. This experiment with the homeopathic infinitesimal quantity of *Silicea* greatly gratified Mr. Rutter, as he had only that very morning experimented upon *Flint* for the first time.

*Phosphorus* 30, one globule, immediately caused a total cessation of the motion of the instrument.

*Iodium* 30, one globule, produced the same effect as *Phosphorus*.

One globule of *Ammonia* 30, increased the normal action visibly.

*Natrum muriaticum* 30, one globule, reversed the normal action, and gave the reverse current just as the *Table Salt* did.

I then proceeded to place other homeopathic preparations upon the operator's hand, and the following were the results, only one globule of each medicine was used:

*Arsenicum*, the instrument stopped.

*Dulcamara*, motion from B to A.

*Opium*, motion ceased.

*Arnica*, reverse of normal action, or reverse current produced.

*Nux vom.*, stopped the motion.

*Ignatia*, reverse current.

*Acid hydrocyanic.*, stopped.

*Belladonna*, ditto.

*Sulphur* 30, reverse current.

*Sulphur* 800, exactly the same both in direction and in force.

*Pulsatilla* 12, stopped.

*Bryonia* 30, reverse action.

*Non-medicated Globules*, no change upon the normal influence of the operator.

*Ipecacuanha* 3, reverse current.

*China* 6, ditto.

*Rhus* 30, ditto.

*Stramonium* 6, stopped.

*Drosera* 3, ditto.

*Kali hydr.* 30, ditto.

*Spongia* 3, ditto.

*Ledum palustre* 12, ditto.

*Capsicum* 3, ditto.

*Cayenne pepper*, same effect exactly.

*Colocynthis*, reverse current.

*Digitalis*, stopped.

*Cannabis*, reverse current.

*Hyoscyamus*, stopped.

*Lycopodium*, ditto.

*Filix mas*, ditto.

*Euphrasia*, reverse current.

*Ruta* 3, stopped.

*Sabina* 6, reverse current.

Some experiments were performed upon several other medicines, but I shall reserve them for another lecture. In a former part of the evening I mentioned the fact of the two thumbs neutralising each other's effects. In the same manner, two metals having the same action upon the currents, being brought in contact with the operator at the same time, neutralise each other's action, and the normal current is restored. Two vegetable medicines, having similar effects upon the normal current, when experimented upon separately, if brought in contact with the operator at the same time, also destroy one another's effect, leaving the normal current to go on, if it was in a state of action when the experiment commenced, or bringing it to a full stop, if it was in a state of repose when the first of the two medicines was applied.

In another lecture Dr. Quin says:

The great barrier which has prevented the majority of the members of the medical profession from inquiring into Homoeopathy, has been their repugnance to entertain, for a moment, the idea that the exiguous doses of medicine administered by homeopathic practitioners can have any effect whatever upon disease. This barrier is now broken down by the brilliant discovery and beautiful invention of Mr. Rutter. No conscientious physician, whatever may be his preconceived opinions, who once witnesses the continuous stream of interesting experiments upon masses of different medicinal agents, and upon the homoeopathic and infinitesimal doses of the same medicinal agents upon the human

frame, by Mr. Rutter's instrument, will be justified in delaying the trial of Homœopathy as a means of alleviating and curing the sufferings of his fellow-creatures. Mr. Rutter's instrument will, by opening the eyes of our professional brethren to the power which infinitesimal doses have upon living matter, I repeat, do more to hasten the investigation and adoption of Homœopathy as a system of medicine, than years of efforts on the part of Hahnemann's followers, prejudiced as their allopathic colleagues are against them. They forget the old Latin philosophical axiom—

"*Tota in minimis existit natura.*"

Mr. Rutter's discovery will recall it to their memory, and force conviction upon them.

How beautifully prophetic of the discovery of Hahnemann, and of the confirmation afforded of that discovery by the beautiful instrument invented by Mr. Rutter, is the observation of the Swedish philosopher, Swedenborg, who was born sixty-seven years before Hahnemann. He says, "It is a constant law of the organic body, that large, compound, or visible forms exist and subsist from smaller, simpler, and ultimately from invisible forms, which act similarly to the larger ones, but more perfectly and more universally, and the least forms so perfectly and universally, as to involve an idea representative of their entire universe."

Now, gentlemen, permit me to draw your attention to some more experiments with the instrument of Mr. Rutter, which have been made since I had the honor of addressing you last. They took place in the presence of twelve gentlemen, who accompanied me to Mr. Rutter's. Three of the twelve are non-professional, three are allopathic physicians, not believers in Homœopathy, and the remaining six are homœopathic colleagues, medical officers of the two homœopathic hospitals. All the various experiments described in my last lecture, in relation to the modifications upon the normal current produced by the operator's left hand being touched by the index, thumb, or whole hand of a male, and by the forefinger, thumb, and whole hand of a female, etc., were repeated.

After Mr. Rutter had gone through the series of beautiful experiments, of a purely physical and philosophical kind, he requested me to take the direction of the medicinal experiments (if I may so call them), for the satisfaction of my friends present. Experiments with the seven following substances gave the following re-

sults, it being understood that the pendulum always was started in the normal action before each experiment.

*Silver foil* placed in the hand of the operator changed the normal circular motion to the reverse circulatory movement, i. e. from B round to G.

*Platina foil* changed the normal motion to the pendulum movement from B to A.

*Gold leaf* changed the normal circular motion to the reverse circular motion.

*Copper foil* gave the same direction as *Gold*.

*Iron*, in bar, changed the normal circular motion to an elliptical motion from H to E.

*Zinc plate* produced the pendulum motion from H to E.

*Flint*, in mass, gave pendulum movement from H to E.

When the above six metals and the *Flint* had been experimented upon, and the effects noted down, I delivered to the three allopathic physicians seven bottles each bottle containing globules of one of the substances just experimented upon, viz., *Ferrum*, *Argentum*, *Cuprum*, *Aurum*, *Zincum*, *Platina*, and *Silicea*, and requested them to test, one after another, the seven different substances, by putting one globule in the left hand of the operator, and not to let either Mr. Rutter or myself know what globules they tried in succession, but to be careful to observe the effect of each globule upon the instrument, and compare it with the effects just produced by the larger quantities of the same metals.

One globule of *Platina* 6, placed in the hand of the operator, changed the normal current to the pendulum motion from B to A.

*Cuprum* 12, one globule, reversed the normal current.

*Argentum* 6, one globule, ditto.

*Ferrum* 30, one globule, produced immediately the elliptical motion from H to E.

*Aurum* 12, one globule, gave the reverse current.

*Silicea* 30, one globule, when placed upon the hand of the operator interfered with the normal current, but did not produce the same action as the *Flint*; but on being dissolved in a wineglass of distilled water, and a drop of the solution being placed on the hand, the normal motion was immediately changed to the pendulum movement from H to E, as had occurred from the mass of *Flint*. Mr. Rutter, who had shown the effects of the different poles of the *Flint* earlier in the experiments, ex-

plained why the globules undissolved did not act properly until dissolved. I understood him to say that he had discovered that all substances capable of being crystallised gave their special action from their base; and the solution of the globule in water resolved it into its base, and its special action was immediately produced from H to E.

*Zincum*, one globule, immediately changed the normal to the pendulum motion from H to E.

Some of these experiments were repeated, and the result was the complete conviction on the part of the three allopathic physicians, of the undoubted action of each of the globules in changing the currents in precisely the same direction as the larger quantities of the metals and the *Flint* had done.

In corroboration of this conviction I may state that one of the allopathic physicians then present has already recorded in print his opinion of the power of infinitesimal doses. He says: "The experiments were now conducted, in a great measure, with the view of testing the truth of Homœopathy, or, at least, the power of infinitesimal doses, and I am bound to declare, as one perfectly free from bias, that whilst the experiments were of the *most searching character* that we could all devise (whether disciples of the school or not), they eventuated in every case in proving the power of the infinitesimal agent. Mr. Rutter, I should observe, is no homœopathist. There was not a single failure, although, as I have said, all our ingenuities were taxed to raise difficulties. Dr. Quin produced some globules which had been in his possession twenty-five years; their effects were perfect."

Some *Fluid Mercury* was put in the operator's hand, and the normal was changed to the pendulum motion from H to E.

One globule of *Mercurius solubilis* produced precisely the same effect.

Two higher attenuations of *Mercurius solubilis* produced the same effect.

*Black Oxide of Mercury* ditto.

*Strontian* in mass gave pendulum motion from F to G.

One globule of *Strontian* 18, gave precisely the same action.

One globule of *Baryta carbonica* produced the same motion as the *Strontian*.

*Black Oxide of Manganese*, in powder, reversed the normal current.

One globule of *Manganesum* 28, gave precisely the same action.

One globule of *Arsenicum* 30, put in the hand of the operator, gave reverse circu-

lar motion, evidently an effect of the *Manganese*. Operator washed his hands.

Another globule of *Arsenicum* was tried, and gave pendulum motion from H to G, not the proper action of *Arsenicum*, which was prevented probably by the effect of the *Soda* in the soap with which the operator had washed his hands. Other globules of lower attenuations were tried, but the proper action was not produced; the hands were again washed, but in plain water, and one globule of *Arsenicum* 30, was placed on the back of the hand where no previous medicine had been put, when the pendulum came immediately to a dead stop, i. e., the proper action of *Arsenicum*.

One globule from each of three other very high attenuations of *Arsenicum* was put on the back of the hand, and the pendulum each time instantly came to a dead stop.

Some *Potash*, in crystal, was placed on the hand and gave the reverse normal current.

One globule of *Causticum* 30, gave the same action.

One globule of *Arsenicum* 6, placed on the hand, brought the normal current to a dead stop. Some *Carbonate of Iron* was put upon the hand, the globule of *Arsenicum* still remaining; the normal current was restored. On the globule of *Arsenicum* being removed, the elliptical motion of the *Iron* was then immediately set up.

You remember the effect which dead animal matter produced upon the instrument as exemplified by a dead fly, when put upon the operator's hand, bringing the pendulum to a dead stop. I was desirous of ascertaining how far a globule of each of the animal substances employed as remedies in homœopathy would coincide in effect with the influence of the dead fly.

Accordingly, one globule of *Lachesis* 30, was placed on the operator's hand, the pendulum having at the time the normal circular motion; the effect was to stop it immediately.

One globule of *Sepia* 30, had the same effect.

One globule of *Castor* 12, ditto.

One globule of *Cancer fluvialis* 3, ditto.

One globule of *Olcum animale*, ditto.

One globule of *Cochineal*, ditto.

One globule of *Oniscus asellus*, ditto.

You will observe, that all of the above animal medicines had exactly the same effect as the dead animal matter, in bringing the instrument to a stop.

But now follow experiments with other homœopathic medicines extracted from

animal matter, where the results were different.

One globule of *Cantharis* 30, (the Spanish fly), reversed the normal motion, causing the pendulum to go from B round to G.

One globule of *Aranea diadema* produced the normal action.

One globule of *Carbo animale* caused the pendulum to pass to and fro from F to G.

One globule of *Moschus* caused the normal circular action, but very feeble.

These last four experiments have only been performed once each, and as the experiments with all the above medicines followed one another in rather quick succession, they will require to be repeated several times before we shall be authorised to conclude that they are all quite correct.

I shall now point out to you some experiments of the greatest possible interest to the homeopathic physician, which demonstrate in the most triumphant manner the correctness of Hahnemann's wonderful observations upon the powers of certain substances to antidote the effects of various medicines upon the body. I shall confine myself this evening chiefly to *Camphor* and *Coffea*, which, as you are well aware, are the antidotes most frequently recommended by Hahnemann against the action of many vegetable, and some mineral and animal substances.

We will first examine the influence of *Camphor* upon the motions produced upon the instrument by those medicines, against the effects of which it is employed as an antidote in homœopathy; and then test the influence of *Coffea* upon the effects of those remedies against which it is used as an antidote. You will bear in mind that *Camphor* produces normal rotatory motion, and *Coffea* a diagonal motion from H to E.

Upon *Cantharides* being placed in the left hand of the operator, the normal circular current from left to right is, as I have already shown you, reversed and moves from right to left; upon *Camphor* being placed with the *Cantharides* in the hand, the motion of the pendulum is stopped.

*Acidum nitricum*, one globule, causes the reverse circular motion; on *Camphor*, one globule, being added, the normal action is produced.

*Acidum phosphoricum*, one globule, causes the pendulum to stop; on *Camphor*, one globule, being added, the normal action is produced.

*Ammonium Carbonicum*, one globule,

produces the normal action; on the addition of one globule of *Camphor*, the motion immediately stops.

*Arnica*, one globule, produced the reverse rotation; on *Camphor*, one globule, being added, the motion is stopped.

*Baryta carbonica*, one globule, changed the normal action to pendulum motion from F to G.; on *Camphor*, one globule, being added, the normal action was immediately produced.

*Bryonia*, one globule, produced reverse rotation; *Camphor*, one globule, being also placed in the hand, brought the motion to a dead stop.

*Drosera rotundifolia*, one globule, produced the pendulum motion from H to E; on *Camphor*, one globule, being added, the motion stopped.

*Lycopodium*, one globule, produced a very uncertain action on the instrument; conjoined with *Camphor*, the normal rotation immediately set in.

I will now point out to you the influence of *Coffea* upon the action of medicines to which it is an antidote.

*Phosphorus*, one globule, brought the normal action immediately to a dead stop; conjoined with one globule of *Coffea*, the normal rotation was produced.

*Belladonna*, one globule, arrested the normal rotation, and brought the pendulum to a dead stop; on being conjoined with *Coffea*, one globule, the normal rotation immediately commenced.

*Chamomilla* produced an immediate stop upon the normal current; on one globule of *Coffea* being placed in the hand along with the *Chamomilla*, the normal rotation immediately commenced.

*Nux vomica*, one globule, stopped the instrument; on *Coffea*, one globule, being added, the normal rotation was put in motion.

*Valeriana* caused the normal motion to cease; and when conjoined with *Coffea*, the pendulum took the normal rotatory motion.

In one of the above experiments, one globule of *Belladonna* seemed to produce no change upon the normal action, but upon the same globule being dissolved, the motion of the instrument was immediately brought to a dead stop; after which, on *Coffea*, one globule, being added, the normal current came back again; and on the *Belladonna* being taken away, the pure action of the *Coffea* developed itself, and the instrument moved diagonally to and fro from H to E.

One globule of *Coffea* was put in the hand, whilst the normal rotation was going

on, it immediately changed it to a diagonal motion, from H to E, and on one globule of *Pulsatilla* being put on the wrist, the normal current was restored; afterwards one globule of *Arsenicum* was placed on the hand, and the pendulum immediately stopped.

Another circumstance connected with these curious and beautiful experiments is worthy of being mentioned to you. Several of these experiments were performed with homœopathic medicines, some very recently prepared, and others which I have had in my possession, 2, 4, 12, 16, 20, and 25 years. Some of them were made by myself, others bought in Leipsic, Dresden, Vienna, Naples, Paris, and London; and none of them failed in producing each its characteristic influence upon the motion of the instrument.

The different experiments which I have laid before you, and the many modifications which I have demonstrated to you various medicines have upon one another, illustrate, in a most remarkable and beautiful manner, the soundness and correctness of one of Hahnemann's discoveries, that the virtues of medicines do not depend upon the quantity in which they are prescribed. No sensible difference has as yet been detected between the effect produced by a substance in a large mass, and the same substance in the minutest homœopathic dose.

In recording the various experiments which I have brought before you, I must hold Mr. Rutter entirely free from any responsibility for any errors which may have crept into my description of the powers of his beautiful instrument. I have mentioned, at an earlier part of the evening, that many of the experiments were made in very rapid succession, and future experiments, more carefully and deliberately made, may possibly prove some of the results to have arisen from the lingering effects of the substance immediately preceding the one under experiment; but in the present stage of the discovery, any slight errors of description do not in the slightest militate against the extraordinary powers of the instrument. The essential and paramount fact at present is that, thanks to Mr. Rutter's discovery, there exists a means of proving that the most infinitesimal quantities affect the human frame in a most visible manner. In a future lecture, I shall have a variety of other interesting facts to bring before you.

I called your attention at our last meeting to the effect of *Flint* upon the pendulum; since then, some admirable experiments have been made by Mr. Rutter, beautifully illustrating

the effects of crystalline forms. *Rock Crystal* (a pure form of *Flint*) gives four distinct motions to the pendulum. 1st. When the apex of the primary axis is placed in contact with the left hand, an oscillation takes place from F to G. 2nd. When the base of the *Crystal* (the part by which it had been attached to the rock) is placed in the hand, oscillation from H to E. 3rd. Upon the *Crystal* being laid across the hand, the apex from the operator, reverse rotation takes place; and 4th, when the apex is towards the operator, direct rotation takes place. Now, the extraordinary thing is, that a globule of the thirtieth attenuation, or the decillionth of *Silicea*, displays all these four distinct motions as completely and satisfactorily as the mass of *Rock Crystal* does, by changing its position in the palm of the hand of the operator; but it is of course impossible to predicate what will happen whilst dealing with so small a portion of the substance. The motions can only be obtained by frequently moving the globule, and at every such change of position, one of the four directions is a constant result. When the experiment was tried last, it only required five changes to arrive at the four different motions. When the globule is dissolved in water, a drop of the solution gives oscillation to and from F G. Mr. Rutter attributes this to the polarising effect of the *Crystal*.

The present explanation will take the place of the observations made by me in my last lecture upon the effects of *Flint* and of a globule of *Silicea*, the result then obtained having been the effect of the base of the *Crystal*, and not of the apex of the primary axis.

On some erude metallic *Antimony* being put upon the left hand of the operator, the normal circulatory movement is immediately changed to the reverse current. One globule of *Antimonium metallicum* was put upon the operator's hand; the effect was to change the normal circulatory motion into the reverse current. *Tartar Emetic*, one globule, had the same effect, being an additional proof to those already furnished, of the soundness of one of Mr. Rutter's discoveries; namely, that all compound substances invariably act in accordance with the powers of their base.

On *Alumina* 30, one globule, being placed on the operator's hand, whilst the pendulum is moving in the normal circular action, the reverse circular motion immediately takes place.

*Cina* 9, one globule, brings the instrument to a dead stop.

*Causticum* 30, one globule, produces the reverse rotation. On *Coffea* 3, one globule, its antidote, being conjoined with the *Causticum* on the hand of the operator, the normal action is immediately produced. On the *Causticum* being removed, and the *Coffea* left, the special action of *Coffea* sets in the pendulum motion from H to E.

*Cicuta* 30, one globule, causes the reverse rotation.

*Coccus* 12, one globule, brings the pendulum to a dead stop. When *Camphor* is added, both the *Coccus* and the *Camphor* being in the hand of the operator at the same time, the normal action is feebly set in.

*Colchicum* 12, one globule, causes the pendulum to move in the reverse rotation.

*Conium* 30, one globule, immediately stops the pendulum. On *Caffeina*, its antidote, being added, the normal rotatory action immediately commences.

*Crocus sativus* 3, one globule, produces a reverse elliptical action from E to H. On its antidote, *Opium* one globule, being conjoined the normal rotatory motion immediately sets in.

*Jalappa* 3, one globule, produces the reverse rotation.

*Mezereum* 12, one globule, causes the instrument to come to a dead stop. On its antidote, *Camphor* one globule, being added, the normal rotatory action immediately commences.

*Petroleum* 18, one globule, gives the reverse rotatory motion. On its antidote, *Nux vomica* 30, one globule, being added, the pendulum immediately stops.

*Rhabarbara (Rheum)* 9, one globule, produces the reverse rotation.

*Sambucus nigra* 3, one globule, produces feeble normal rotation.

*Acidum nitricum* 12, one globule, causes the pendulum to take the reverse rotatory motion; conjoined with its antidote *Camphor* one globule, the normal rotation is immediately produced.

*Secale cornutum* 30, one globule, produces the normal rotation; conjoined with its antidote *Camphor* one globule, the pendulum is brought to a dead stop.

Nothing can be more beautiful and more satisfactory than to witness the results upon Mr. Rutter's instrument of the experiments with the antidotes to these various medicines, indicated by Hahnemann in his works. Our revered master, by dint of long, patient, and persevering experiments upon the effect of various medicines upon the healthy body, discovered a number of antidotes to some of these medicines, and in other instances, only to some of the effects of each medicine experimented upon. In other instances, he corrected many errors into which medical authors had fallen, with respect to the powers of some antidotes. Mr. Rutter's instrument corroborates in the most satisfactory and most beautiful manner the experiments of Hahnemann.

In the course of these experiments of Hahnemann, he discovered that some antidotes had the power of neutralising *all* the effects of the substances against which they were prescribed. On the other hand, he found that he could not by one single antidote overcome the entire action of some substances, the effects of which he wished to neutralise. He was obliged, therefore, to direct his experiments in such a manner as to discover how he could neutralise by different partial antidotes—if I may so call them—

the effects produced upon different organs by certain medicines. Hence we find several antidotes recorded in Hahnemann's works against one single medicine: one, for instance, to neutralise the effect of that medicine upon the brain; another to overcome its action upon the circulation; a third to modify its effects upon the stomach or bladder; and a fourth to calm the irritating or the depressing action upon the nervous system.

Hitherto, I have merely, as far as I recollect, recorded the effect of one single antidote against one remedy. I shall now bring under your notice a few experiments where several antidotes in succession were tried against one single medicine, these antidotes being those indicated by Hahnemann. For example, the two antidotes to *Graphites* are *Nux vomica* and *Arsenicum*.

On one globule of *Graphites* 30, being placed on the operator's left hand, the reverse elliptical motion from E to H set in. On *Nux vomica* 30, one globule, being added to it, the pendulum immediately stopped. On the *Nux vomica* 8, being taken away, the elliptical motion was immediately reproduced. On *Arsenicum* 30, one globule, being added, the pendulum immediately stopped.

The two antidotes indicated against *Helleborus* are *Camphor* and *China*.

On one globule of *Helleborus niger* 12, being put in the operator's hand, the pendulum stopped. On one globule of *Camphor* being added, the normal rotatory motion immediately set in; the *Camphor* was removed, and the pendulum again stopped. On one globule of *China* 30, being added, the pendulum action from E to H immediately set in.

The antidotes to *Sabadilla* are *Pulsatilla* and *Camphor*.

One globule of *Sabadilla* brought the instrument to a dead stop. On one globule of *Pulsatilla* being added, the normal rotatory action immediately commenced. On the *Pulsatilla* being removed, the instrument again stopped. One globule of *Camphor* was added, and the normal rotation immediately set in.

The antidotes to *Senega* are *Arnica*, *Camphor*, *Bryonia*, and *Belladonna*.

The effect of one globule of *Senega* upon the instrument was to bring it to a dead stop. On being conjoined with one globule of *Arnica*, the normal rotatory motion set in. The *Arnica* was removed, and the pendulum stopped. *Camphor* was added, when normal rotation set in. On the *Camphor* being removed, the pendulum again stopped. One globule of *Bryonia* was then added, and the normal rotation again reappeared. The *Bryonia* 30, was removed, and the instrument stopped; and, finally, on *Belladonna* 30, one globule, being added, the reverse rotatory motion immediately set in.

Now, gentlemen, you have of course borne in mind that the globule of *Senega* was during the whole of the last experiment in the hand of the operator; that before the *Senega* touched his hand, the pendulum was going round in the

normal rotatory direction, and that the *Senega* brought it to a dead stop. Permit me to recall to your memory, that the natural effect of *Arsenica* placed in the hand of the operator, would be to cause the reverse rotatory motion, but its effect, finding the hand already under the influence of the globule of *Senega*, was to produce the normal rotatory motion instead of the reverse. The natural action of *Camphor* is to produce the normal rotatory motion, and in this instance it neutralises the effect of *Senega*, which had brought the pendulum to a stop. The natural effect of *Bryonia* is the reverse motion; conjoined with the *Senega*, however, the normal motion is produced. When the globule of *Belladonna* (the natural effect of which is to stop the pendulum just as the *Senega* does) is added, a different action from any of the three other antidotes is set in, that of the reverse rotatory motion.

I cannot imagine anything more beautiful or more delicate than these experiments. Mr. Rutter, who is no homœopath, is perfectly astonished and enchanted at the additional means which the discoveries of Hahnemann give him (Mr. Rutter) of proving the delicate and truthful action of his instrument.

To us homœopathic practitioners, the beautiful invention and discovery of Mr. Rutter is precious beyond all calculation, as a means of calling attention to, and spreading homœopathy among, our allopathic colleagues. I know not how you feel, gentlemen, but my heart is overflowing with gratitude to Mr. Rutter, for all that his discovery may be the means of doing for our Cause.

He has unconsciously but most correctly described himself in his lecture, extracts of which I have given this evening. He is indeed one of those "who are labouring to leave the world better than they found it." I cannot close my lecture more fitly than by quoting the beautiful words of Mr. Rutter, so expressive of the character of his own mind—"We were living in the midst of mysteries, which God was revealing to us for the good of his creatures."

## ALLOPATHIC PRACTICE.

The *Medical Gazette* is handling some of its brethren rather roughly. The case of the late Dr. J. K. R. was thought to have been a bilious remittent fever, for which he was treated, but on a *post-mortem*, it was discovered to be an "extensive suppurative inflammation in the mesenteric veins, which had involved the portal vein, and the enteric chylopoietic system." We for once agree with the "Gazette" that a *Phlegmasia* should not be mistaken for a *Pyrexia*; "that the recurrence of three

or four chills in a day, not followed by any hot stage, but abruptly terminating in a profuse perspiration" is not characteristic of *remittent fever*. But it appears that these symptoms, which show the presence of pus, and a suppurative process in some part of the body, were mistaken as diagnostic of *remittent fever*, by three of our most eminent allopaths. If three homœopaths had made so serious and inexcusable a blunder, most likely the "Gazette" would have urged the Grand Jury to do its duty, and not apologise, or rather "blow hot and blow cold," as it does in behalf of the parties concerned. The "Gazette" intimates that the details of the case and its treatment will be published; but mark! our word for it, that will never take place.

The "Gazette" belabors, and justly too, a Professor of one of our Colleges who it is said does "not feel a pulse in a month," out of a Hospital, for having given 2800 grains of opium in fifteen days to one patient afflicted with *puerperal* or child-bed fever. This quantity of opium to a single patient may seem incredible, but it is true. Such is the practice in the Emigrants' Hospital; and such is the latest improvement in allopathic practice.

The allopathic medical colleges and associations of England and Scotland, are zealously engaged in an endeavor to arrest the progress of homœopathy, by passing very severe resolutions denouncing every thing that "smells" of Homœopathy; but as yet very little progress has been made in "putting down" that, to them, obnoxious doctrine and practice. Similar efforts are about to be put forth in this country. The New York Academy of medicine, a *clique* of the greatest "humbugs" of the profession, have broke ground on this subject.

The account of the experiments by the *Magnetoscope* comes to us so well authenticated, that we think our readers will not blame us for occupying so much room by the detail of such interesting phenomena. We are not however without our doubts, that subsequent investigations may detract

from what now seems to be so clear,—so demonstrative. The experience of the last fifty years leaves no doubt upon the minds of thousands upon thousands, and the number is daily increasing, that the attenuated drugs of Hahnemann possess medicinal power when introduced into the human system, especially in a diseased state. We will not now particularise what seems to us to place the experiments, as related by Dr. Quin, in some doubt; but refer to a single point only, which according to a rule of evidence is fatal;—the experiments seem to us to prove too much—they show the same power in the crude drugs and all the different attenuations from the 3d. to the 800th, which few can believe, for it is an established fact, ascertained by years of experience, that the medicinal power differs among the attenuations. We will wait for further developements of the *Magnetoscope* in the forthcoming book, when we may recur to this subject.

### SMALLPOX.

By J. REDMON COXE, Jr., M.D., of Philadelphia, Pa.

CASE I.—Miss E. B., 22, bilious temperament, was vaccinated in early life, had marks well developed on left arm, acquired the disease from her brother (Mr. J. B., 31 years.) I never had a worse case of confluent smallpox. Found *Tart. Em.*, 2d. trit., in conjunction with *Merc. Sol.* 3d., the most effective medicine I employed. Miss B. being, like most young ladies, very desirous to escape pitting, I gave, on the recommendation of various M. D.s. of the homœopathic school, *Vaccinine*, 3d. trit., two grains, daily, for nine successive days, with no other view than that of endeavoring to avoid pitting. I had not given it two days ere I discovered a marked alleviation of the fever, and much diminution of the puffiness of the face and extremities. The fever declined rapidly during the eruptive stage, so that on the 2d. and succeeding days Miss B. had no fever of any consequence. During the stage of maturation there was absolutely none, but very abundant salivation, subdued by *Merc.*

Although Miss B. lost every particle of hair, eyebrows and lashes, in fact, the whole of the skin of her body, there was scarcely a vestige of scars. On the face I counted only four, one of which was at the extremity of the nose, and was rather ornamental than otherwise. She informed me she had no pits on her body except a very few under the left nipple.

CASE II.—Miss M. B., (sister of case 1st.) 20 years, bilious temperament, sickened a week after her sister, with whom she slept; confluent form, though not quite as severe as case 1st. Had been vaccinated in infancy, marks scarcely perceptible. When this case occurred my *Vaccinine* 3d. was nearly gone, and I used *Vac. 15*, of which I had a small quantity, two grains daily for ten days. I could perceive no effect, save a very slight diminution of the fever, which continued all through the eruptive and maturing stages, and more than half through the desiccating stage. This case was deeply pitted after recovery, much to her and my mortification, otherwise she made a good recovery and had no sequel of any kind. This case lost most of the hair of the head, but neither eyebrows nor lashes, and was, in severity, by no means comparable to Case 1.

CASE III.—Mr. J. B., 31 years, bilious temperament, large, powerful man, very healthy, had been vaccinated in infancy, marks quite plain. Mr. B. caught the disease at a distance from his domicile, and not knowing what was the matter with him, returned home, and ultimately communicated variola to the whole family, (save his mother, 58, and his youngest sister, 12 years) in different degrees of intensity. When I saw him, the eruptive stage was just commencing, he having been sick for four days with fever, headache, great somnolency, vomiting, and great pain in the back and lower extremities. This was a case of distinct variola; not many pustules on the face, perhaps, in all, some 30 or 40; quite a number on the chest, arms and legs; very few on the back. On the whole it was rather a light case, and

recovered rapidly under (principally) *Tart.* *Ant.* *Merc.* and *Sulph.* As I gave no *Vac.*, Mr. B. was pretty severely pitted, but not amounting to deformity.

CASE IV.—Mr. A. B., 18 years, bilious temperament, large heavy young man, brother to case 3d. This was also a case of distinct variola—rather more severe than case 3d. Had been vaccinated in early life—marks very distinct. Having been fortunate enough to obtain several fresh vaccine scales, I took the best, weighing 1 3-4 grains, and triturated it decimally with *Sach. Lact.* Gave Mr. B. two grains daily for ten days of the 2d dec. trit., with the following results: very little fever, no pain save in the back, good appetite all through the disease. Eruptive stage lasted only two days, there was scarcely any maturing stage, the eruptive running into the desiccating, the pustules did not fill up and had a different appearance from case 3d. This case, though eight days later in sickening than case 3d., and more severe, judging by the number of pustules, was well enough to go out and attend to business a day before case 3d. There was not a vestige of a pit, and in 1849, when I last saw Mr. B., it would have been impossible to discover that he had ever had variola. The total exemption from pitting in this case, I attribute to the stronger doses of *Vac.* to the freshness of the scab used (less than a week old,) and to my having commenced on the very day Mr. B. complained of slight illness. Had I had another case after this, it was my intention to have used *Vac.* 1st. dec. trit. from the commencement. I had several other cases of variola at this time, all of which safely recovered, and all were pitted more or less severely, except those who took the *Vac.* I had none to give until it was too late to be of service to my other cases, or I should have used it in all.

The mother of this family had had natural small pox, and was deeply pitted; the youngest girl, 12 years, had been vaccinated in infancy by the same M.D. who had vaccinated the others; her marks were quite plain, but though she nursed her sisters night and day during their whole illness, she escaped.

Does not this justify the idea of some M.D.s, who are of opinion that the *Vac.* has lost (partially) its prophylactic power by transmission through so many myriads of human beings, since the discovery of the illustrious Jenner? And ought we not to return to the original source (the cow) at least once in twenty years? We are well assured that those vaccinated fifty and more years since have been effectually protected, while it is equally certain that thousands of those vaccinated within the last thirty years, in all portions of the globe, have not been protected, but have contracted variola in its worst form, or varioloid, which is merely modified variola, since I have had severe cases of variola contracted from very light cases of varioloid.

The late announcement of the virtue of *Variolin* in smallpox has caused me to reflect much upon this subject. If the recoveries attributed to *Variolin* are indeed due to it, then are we bound to use it, and I, for one, am determined to try it in the first case I may have of variola. I hope others will also try it, and, through your journal, communicate the results to the public at large.

## INAUGURATION

*Of the Colossal Statue of Hahnemann at Leipzig.*

The 10th of August, at Leipzig, was one of the most brilliant and cloudless days of the year, and being a holiday, the good Leipzigers had donned their best attire, and were assembled in great crowds to witness the ceremony of unveiling the statue of that great man who, thirty years before, had been ignominiously expelled their city.

A large number of homœopathic practitioners had assembled from every part of Germany, and from many distant countries, from Italy, Spain, Denmark, England, Scotland, to assist in this work of respect for the memory of their master, and these being joined by a large number of the lay friends of the Cause, at twelve o'clock, marched in procession through the eager crowd, from the Hôtel de Pologne to the place where the veiled statue stood. A large space had been railed off round the

statue, and tastefully decorated with garlands of flowers. The procession, having arrived on the ground, formed a circle round the statue, and a chorus sung an anthem. After this, Dr. Melicher, the president of the Congress, delivered an oration in honor of the Founder of Homeopathy, and at a signal from him, the canvas that shrouded it fell and revealed the statue, amid the plaudits of the assembled multitude and a flourish of trumpets. The chorus then sang an ode composed for the occasion, after which Dr. Melicher, addressing the chief magistrate and town council, who were present on the ground, solemnly delivered over the statue to them. The chief magistrate made a suitable reply and commended the statue to the care of the citizens of Leipzig. Dr. Staph now advanced, and laid a laurel and wreath at the foot of the statue of his late Friend and Master, and the procession then re-formed and marched back to the hotel, where an excellent dinner awaited them, to which upwards of 160 ladies and gentlemen sat down. Appropriate toasts and songs enlivened the entertainment, which was effectively presided over by Dr. Melicher. The festivities terminated by a ball in the evening, which was kept up with great spirit by the young folks.—*Hom. Times, Aug. 30.*

## THE NEW-YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.

This *clique* of Physicians assumes to be the Medical Profession of this city, and it is often found meddling with that which does not belong to it. This *clique* is exceedingly intolerant, and it does enact some laughable scenes. The following was offered, and we believe adopted, at the meeting of the Academy, Nov. 5th, 1851:

*Whereas*, a large proportion of the Quacks and unprincipled physicians of this city, and it is believed throughout the country, are men who have been graduated *Doctors of Medicine* in some incorporated Medical School, College or Institution; and *whereas*, from the peculiar circumstances of this country, human life and health are of so much importance that they should be intrusted to none but men of undoubted character and skill; therefore—

*Resolved*, That it is the inflexible and paramount duty of all Colleges, Schools and Institutions authorised to confer degrees, to withhold them in the first instance from men of equivocal character for skill and morality, and to reserve, on the face of them, the right to reclaim such Diplomas as have been conferred upon the unworthy, or forfeited by conduct or practices inconsistent with the Ethics of the profession, or moral obligations to the public: And, *whereas* there is reason to believe that there are Institutions in the land so recreant to the honor,

dignity, and true interests of the Profession that they will, from mercenary motives, confer degrees upon those who are destitute of character and learning, and also upon such as are openly and unblushingly immoral and quackish in their professional conduct; therefore—

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to draft, and report to this body, a circular to be addressed to the Medical profession at large, and to each and every known organised body of medical men in the United States, requesting them to unite, and to call on the laity also to cooperate with them, petitioning the Legislatures of the several States and Territories, so to alter or amend the Charter of every Medical School, College, or Institution, within their respective jurisdictions, as to render it imperative on them to give the Degree of Doctor of Medicine to those persons only who sustain a fair moral character, and to revoke or rescind publicly any Diplomas which may have been conferred by them on persons who shall have turned Quacks, become immoral, or rendered themselves, by any course of conduct whatever, unworthy the honor which should ever accompany the degree of Doctor of Medicine. And *whereas*, it has been announced through the Medical Periodicals of this city, that a plan is in progress for organising Medical Schools, with the privilege of conferring degrees, at such of the Hospitals of this City and State as may be designated for that purpose by our county and other chartered Medical Societies. And *whereas*, such Schools, properly organised, will add greatly to the efficiency of our systems of medical education—will develop the resources of our great Hospitals which, at present, are of little or no account, comparatively speaking—will liberalise the business of instruction, and republicanise our Medical Schools, bringing them more fully into accordance with most of our other national institutions: therefore—

*Resolved*, That the project of establishing practical schools for the teaching of medicine at the Hospitals of this city and state, under the sanction of our medical societies, meets with the hearty approbation of this Academy.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to inquire and ascertain what measures, if any, have been adopted for bringing said project before the Legislature of this State; and if no such measures have been taken, that said Committee be instructed to prepare a memorial, which, when approved by this body, may be presented to the Legislature at its next regular session, asking for the passage of a *General Law* for establishing Institutions as aforesaid, at such hospitals in this state as are supported, wholly or in part, by the bounty of the public, and enjoy the means requisite for the accommodation and treatment of one hundred patients or more, whenever the necessity for any such schools shall be declared to exist by the county Medical Societies, or other incorporated Medical Society in the county in which any such Hospitals exist; and also requiring the several medical Institutions in the state to establish in connection therewith, an Hospital, capable of accomodating as many patients as shall be designated by the Societies aforementioned.

What pains these Academy Gentlemen take to curse themselves! For if such laws were enacted, some of them would lose their diplomas—they would be thrown overboard, if lying, drunkenness and a pretension to medical knowledge and skill they do not possess, constitute immorality and quackery. "But Quackery has," says an ex-Editor in the New-York Medical Times, "when applied to the regular members of the healing art, a vastly wider meaning. By the term is then meant, *any act on*

*the part of a regular physician, by which his own dignity, or the interests of his profession are jeopardised, by which loss of moral and professional character is incurred or notoriety sought to be acquired in a manner contrary to established rules of medical ethics, and calculated, through the act of an individual, to bring contempt upon the profession."*

Now, if this definition of Quackery be admitted, what is the standing of a large number of the members of the New-York Academy of Medicine, including some of the professors? We leave the people to judge, who are as familiar with their "walk and conversation," and more so, perhaps, than the Profession itself.

While on this point, we will first say to the "fellows" of the Academy what they do not seem to know, that no Court of Justice in Christendom ever has undertaken, nor ever will, nor ever can undertake to decide, what Quackery is? It is not a subject for judicial investigation at all. And for the very plain reason, there is no standard of medical practice, and in the nature of the thing, there never can be a standard by which a Court of Justice could decide questions of medical practice; this is a matter which must for ever be left to physicians and the people. No legislation whatever can reach questions of medical practice, and when a legislative body enacts that a certain class of medical men shall be the only legal practitioners, it goes beyond its function, and institutes an odious and dangerous monopoly; and the holding out the idea of protection thereby of the public health, and the lives and safety of individuals, is a deception. If the medical profession, in a government like ours, cannot, by its intelligence, learning, honesty and skill, commend itself to the confidence and patronage of the people, then no laws should be enacted to give it honor and glory, and force its services upon the people with nothing to recommend it to them but legislative enactments.

We do not object to a *General Law* for the establishment of institutions for medical and surgical teachings; this is right

and proper; but we don't want this law to apply only to Hospitals that receive the public money—we want no such monopoly—and if the Academy goes to the legislature of this State for the law with such a restriction, we hope and believe that the people will oppose such a petition.

We have not the room, though we have the inclination, to analyse pretty thoroughly the above resolutions; they certainly are not the best specimen of a learned composition, nor are they consistent in every respect with one another. The idea of liberalising the business of instruction, and republicanising our Medical Schools by such a body as the New-York Academy, is ridiculous in the extreme. The new doctrine of revocation of medical diplomas by legalising the "ethics of the profession," is something "new under the sun," and we believe it is the only new idea yet put forth by the Academy. On the whole, the fact that these resolutions were offered in the Academy, duly seconded, debated and adopted, goes far to prove that some of the "fellows" of that *clique* are really demented, and if they go on in this way, the authorities may feel warranted in a legal inquiry, if these gentlemen are really of sound mind, and whether they ought not, for the public safety, to be confined in an asylum for the insane.

## BRITISH CONGRESS OF HOMEOPATHISTS.

The Second Annual Congress of Homœopathists for Great Britain was held at London on the 23d and 24th of July last, and was attended by more than sixty practitioners. Dr. Russel delivered the annual address, which is to be published in the British Journal. Resolutions were adopted expressing the confidence of those present in the Homœopathic law, and their resolution to abide by it notwithstanding all opposition. Most of the papers which had been prepared for the meeting were withdrawn, in order to afford sufficient time for the congress to consider the exceedingly threatening attitude assumed by Allopathy towards Homœopathy in the British Isles at the present time.

Our brethren in this country can form but little idea of the different atmospheres in which Homœopathy has had to struggle for an existence in England and here. In a great majority of the States in the Union, every obstacle to the free practice of medicine has been removed by legislative enactment, and the doors of the profession are open to every comer, and even in those where this has not yet been done, a diploma from a medical college is generally a sufficient license to practise. But in England the case is far otherwise; the power of conferring the license to practise is in the hands of a few monster corporations, without whose permission no one can exercise the office of a physician within their limits, and these corporations are controlled by the most vehement opponents of progress. Our readers have doubtless seen that the war has at last, after various threatenings, broken out, and the Universities have virtually announced that they will confer a diploma upon no one who manifests any tincture of Homœopathic principles. We rejoice greatly at this open stand; it is so at variance with true liberty—it is so contrary to the interests of science—it is so evident a relic of the Inquisition and of the dark ages—it is so opposed to every sentiment of right and every principle of humanity—that it only needs to be looked at openly by the British public to bring down sure destruction upon the heads of our monopolising adversaries. They are busy in signing their own death-warrant—let us not disturb, but rather assist them as far as possible.

Suppose for a moment that a number of British subjects in Kent had somehow contracted the idea that the growing of hops was very beneficial to the atmosphere, and that it was expedient for them to cultivate each man a small field of them for the sake of his own health, and that of his family. What would a *free* people say to an attempt on the part of a band of speculating hop-growers in another county to deprive them of this privilege, because *they* thought that the opinion was a mistake, and that such a course really interfered with their health? Would not the true motive of selfishness appear transparently through the flimsy veil of pretended philanthropy, and would not its discovery cover its possessors with confusion and defeat? And yet here are a million of people in the British Islands firmly convinced that the true treatment of disease is that which is founded on Homœopathic principles, and that the prevailing system of medicine is one which entails upon those who employ

it, needless suffering and frequent death; and this million of free human beings is to be deprived of all choice in a matter concerning their very lives, and the lives of all they hold dear, to gratify the pecuniary speculations of a favored class! This cannot be—we shall soon see such a manifestation of public opinion on this subject as will cause these inquisitorial conspirators to hide their diminished heads. Meanwhile, we bid our transatlantic colleagues bide their time; they are nobly struggling for the right of *protesting*; let them remember that the *principle* for which they contend is one which always has carried, and always will carry, within itself the elements of final success.—*N. A. Journal of Homœopathy.*

#### NOTICE.

We flatter ourself that the readers of this journal will approve the addition of so beautiful a cover to it. Hereafter there will be fully sixteen pages, double columns, of reading matter, as all advertisements will appear on the cover. The extending circulation of the American Journal of Homœopathy renders it a desirable medium for advertising on matters connected with Homœopathy.

Subscribers should bear in mind that the volume of this Journal commences in May of each year, and not, as some have supposed, in January. Those who subscribed until January, 1852, will please notice that the period of their subscription has expired, and if they will immediately remit one dollar the Journal will be continued to them until the end of this and the succeeding volume, which will be completed in April, 1853.

We have a number of communications on hand which will be attended to in due time. Dr. Ring's valuable paper will appear in our next number.

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Those of our correspondents who have directed our attention to what are termed "*Eclectic Homœopathists*," a term without sense, are informed that we shall in due time attend to that class of Allopathists, so that our lay readers may be able to distinguish genuine Homœopathic practitioners from those who are not.

# THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

*"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."*

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NO. 10.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

## REASONS FOR EMBRACING HO- MŒOPATHY.

By CHARLES RANSFORD, M. D.

[Concluded from page 115.]

THE author found that the profession in Edinburgh and London resembled each other in the opposition which it offered to a proposed improvement in therapeutics. He acknowledges, that so far as he is concerned, he was as much to blame as any of them; and the only reparation which he has it in his power to make, is this confession of the melancholy fact. These circumstances, coupled with the increasing want of confidence in the ordinary practice, led him to the determination of *secretly* testing the monster, and of publishing the results of his trials. He believed that by so doing, he should be convinced of the fallacies of homœopathy, and that any doubts of their existence would be speedily dispelled, and his mind set at rest. His determination to test it was strengthened by attentively considering the letter of his late ever to be lamented friend, Dr. Andrew Combe, whose writings are so widely known and so justly appreciated in Europe and America. Dr. Combe had no cause to serve but that of truth. Truthfulness was his characteristic. The writer knew but too well, that so far as the uncertainty of medicine was concerned, he could scarcely be worse off, for professional intercourse (and this was considerable) with many eminent practitioners, had not tended to increase his confidence in drugs nor in medicine generally; nor did Dr. Forbes give him comfort, when he issued his celebrated number of the *British and Foreign Review*, containing the well known article entitled "Homœopathy, Allopathy and Young Physic." In order to take his first step with every precaution, the writer acquainted his friend, Dr. Russell, of Edinburgh, with his difficulties, and received from that gentleman every direction for the proper investigation of the homœopathic

practice; he likewise went to Newcastle, and introduced himself to Dr. Hayle, who received him with his wonted urbanity, and advised him if he wished to be speedily convinced of the power and efficacy of homœopathic preparations, to select for trial acute cases of disease. He returned and commenced his investigations, carrying them on in such a manner, that with scarce an exception, his patients were ignorant of his proceedings, and did not suspect any deviation from ordinary practice, save that they were agreeably surprised to find themselves cured and relieved by medicines tasteless and colorless. The result of his first trials utterly confounded him. Acute inflammatory cases, of such a description as are by consent of all authorities in medicine ordered or recommended to be treated by bleeding, either general or local, and other debilitating measures, yielded much sooner to the homœopathic remedies appropriate to each case.

So soon as I was convinced that the homœopathic preparations, administered according to the homœopathic law, were more efficacious in curing acute cases of disease than the old method of practice, I corresponded with several of my medical friends of the allopathic school, mentioned my experience on the subject, and requested their opinions. *Not one met the case on its merits*; one ridiculed the idea that such effects could possibly result from a decillionth of aconite, &c.; another dismissed the subject very summarily by saying, that "he knew nothing whatever of homœopathy, but that he considered the administering of such small doses in really dangerous cases to be a trifling with human life;" another's response was to this effect—"I have seen some narrow escapes from homœopathic treatment." One friend, whilst opposing homœopathy, made this somewhat remarkable admission—"I have no doubt but that patients will get well sooner under the homœopathic treatment;" a fourth saw no objections to my continuing

the investigation secretly, believing that a return to my "first love" would be the result of a more extended experience.

Several of my patients of the higher ranks asked me whether I was practising homœopathically. I replied in the affirmative, but added, that as yet my mind was not sufficiently decided upon the matter; they did not care how I treated them, providing I did so conscientiously; and all my medical correspondents urged me not to proclaim my "perversion" (so they termed it) until a few months longer should have passed away.

I would ask my allopathic brethren, whether they believe that *imagination* will cure cases of acute disease, the rapid subsidence of which, under homœopathic remedies, is astonishing, and can be attested by thousands? Or will diet, however restricted and well regulated, be effectual for the same desirable end, (and let it be observed, that in the two cases of infantile bronchitis which have been detailed, no alteration of diet could have been made,) and the disease only began to yield (and then did so) upon the administration of the homœopathic medicines? But if this line of argument be persisted in by our brethren, or the assertion that the *vis medicatrix naturæ* is the cause of recovery, we reply—be consistent then, do not continue to administer the nauseous and hurtful compounds to your unhappy patients, if you think that the disease can be removed by the combined influences of diet, imagination and nature; do not injure their stomachs by calomel, jalap, and other potent drugs; nor resort to bleeding, blistering, nor such like violent measures. Surely, those who in sincerity advance such arguments, would do well to ponder, whether they may not easily be turned against themselves, and the subjects of such unpleasant experiments may with reason say, Gentlemen, leave us to the more agreeable remedies of imagination, diet, and nature.

But we have been not a little surprised of late, to find that the once oft reiterated objection to the employment of homœopathic remedies in acute and dangerous cases, has been succeeded by attempts to frighten our patients, by telling them, that although the seat of disease may be and is reached by homœopathic remedies, (for the evidence of this is beyond dispute,) yet that this is effected at the expense of the constitution. Some of my patients informed me, that medical men told them by way of warning, that the homœopathic medicines were virulent poisons, and that although they removed disease, undermined the pa-

tient's system and shortened his life! One lady assured me so, and another was told that if she persisted in taking the remedies which I prescribed for her, she would die suddenly. Happily these ladies (who were both my patients,) were women possessed of ability and will to exercise their reasoning powers, and therefore they disregarded such ridiculous modes of setting aside the question. We told them that if the remedies *were* poisons, doctors of the old school administered the same in much larger quantities: also that Hahnemann, who proved so many medicines upon himself, lived to the age of eighty-nine.

A lady, the sister of a friend of mine, a highly respectable homœopathic physician, was gravely told by a gentleman in large practice, that a pain in the region of the heart, with which a lady is troubled, has been caused by the Belladonna given to her by this physician; at another time this same practitioner asserted that this very Belladonna was "nothing."

Strange indeed it is that such contradictory assertions should be made, but we must leave the task of reconciling their discrepancies to the authors themselves.

To call Hahnemann and his followers quacks, is merely to say that which is false. A system of therapeutics which is based upon observation and experience, which has been tested by various persons in different parts of the globe; these persons publishing to the world the results of their investigations, these results agreeing remarkably with one another, can this with justice be called quackery? It pretends not to possess a universal remedy for the various ills that flesh is heir to; it does not conceal its remedies; on the contrary, it publishes them without reserve, and invites all the members of the medical profession to test its truth or its falsehood for themselves. Take Aconite, for example, in infinitesimal doses, administer it as we have frequently done to an infant at the breast, so as to exclude any supposed effect of the imagination, it will be found to be an indisputable fact, that this medicine in this very minute dose, will subdue inflammatory action more effectually, more quickly, more safely, than any other known means. Every practitioner may convince himself of the truth of this assertion. It was the testimony of so many enlightened and honest men, professional and unprofessional, that first led me to investigate the subject, and others I believe will from similar reasons, be led to adopt a like course; what the result will be it does not require to be told. Truth will prevail.

## ECLECTICS IN HOMOEOPATHY.

The signs of the times most clearly show, that allopathic practice will not much longer be supported by the people. The change which is in progress in the healing art can in no wise be arrested. Go on it must. The combined exertions of allopaths in this and other countries will not retard in the least the increasing confidence of the people in homœopathic practice. The *intolerance* which marks almost every movement of the allopathic school shows its weakness, as well as a consciousness of its utter inability to sustain itself on the assumed ground of its honesty, knowledge and skill; therefore it cannot, in a spirit of liberality and brotherly kindness, suffer the homœopathic school to exist without persecution; although the members of the latter are well known to those of the former to be equally honest, equally learned, and it is reported and generally believed much more skillful than their opponents.

This is not the age, nor is this the country, to favor intolerance, especially on scientific subjects. The allopathic school could not adopt more certain measures for the overthrow of itself, than the persecuting spirit with which it has inspired its members towards homœopaths; and very soon it will see, when too late, the serious blunder in this respect it has most unwisely allowed itself to commit by ignorant zeal. That school is now in a position most favorable to the progress of homœopathy. Its doings are made known to the people through the press; its own periodicals are assuming a popular character, and whatever it does towards, or has to say of homœopathy and her practitioners, is read by the people, whose intelligence enables them to perceive the fallacy of its pretensions and of its proceedings. Neither frowns, nor sneers, nor ridicule, nor resolutions, nor laws, nor personal influence can in this age and in this country prevent the progress of truth. Hahnemann uttered the truth. No one who has repeated his experiments has dared to gainsay his doctrine and practice.

He established a law of cure, and no one has proved it false. He urged, as most suitable, attenuated medicines, even to the 30th potency, and no one who has honestly tried them as he advised and practiced, but what agreed with him in their efficacy. True, there are those who say they have employed them unsuccessfully in diseases; but such testimony is of no value. If their experiments were fair, why did they not publish their cases, so that others might judge of the faithfulness of the experiments? It is an indolent and cowardly course for a physician, in a matter of such vast importance, to oppose a practice by saying orally, "I have tried Hahnemann's practice, and it failed." We have no confidence in such declarations, nor should any one have confidence in them. We have met with numerous detailed cases of the most remarkable and prompt results of Hahnemann's practice; but we have never met with published cases of failures by *his* practice.

If the perception of the allopathic school had not been blunted by pride, vanity, and hypocrisy, it would at once receive into full communion all eclectics, or mongrels: all those who discard the small doses, and pretend to have some faith in the law of cure, as a law of cure, but not the *only* law of cure; all those who deny their faith by their works; who occasionally bleed, blister and give cathartics, and pretend that the homœopathic *materia medica* does not furnish sufficient remedial agents, and that homœopathy itself is yet so young that they are compelled to go to the impure sources of allopathy and employ empirical measures in the treatment of the sick. We say to the allopathic school, do justly and receive these practitioners into your communion, for they are of you, body and soul. They think as you think, reason as you reason, theorise as you theorise, and in all things in a modified form do as you do. They reject Hahnemannianism, although they take his name into their polluted lips with seeming respect where Homœopathy is popular; but where it is not, they more than insinuate that he was

an enthusiast, a zealot, a bigot, a German theoriser, a hair-splitter, whose experience and integrity are doubtful; that his small doses are of no efficacy, and ought to be rejected by every sensible person in the profession and out of it. Now, we admit it possible, that the allopathic school perceives that these pretended homœopaths can do more effective service for allopathy, by the injury they do to genuine Homœopathy than if they were duly acknowledged allopaths. We admit the force of this view of the subject; and we also admit that these *mongrels*, these *eclectics*, these empirical measure practitioners who have intruded themselves into the homœopathic school, actually do more effective service to perpetuate allopathy than all the allopaths combined who make no pretensions to any degree of confidence in Homœopathy.

We know there are those who honestly believe that it is a gain to Homœopathy for a practitioner to adopt a part of her principles—to declare in favor of *similia similibus curantur*, and reject the *psoric* theory, and attenuated medicines; and hold to the practical value of modern pathology, diagnosis and nosology, as leading to a true theory of cure. We are not of those who thus believe. We know from our own experience and that of others in this country and in Europe, that the dose of the remedy is of vast importance in homœopathic practice; and when the law of cure is strictly followed, this truth will appear most clearly, and so thoroughly are we convinced of it, that he who speaks of doses of medicine as of secondary consideration, we regard such an one but very imperfectly instructed in Homœopathy. Such is the nature of Homœopathy, that if she be approached but half way from allopathy, it amounts to but little or nothing for practical purposes. There is not, and cannot be a *betweenity* mode of practice; it must be in the nature of things either allopathic or homœopathic. There can be no such thing as mingling the two modes of practice. "One sinner destroyeth much good." So likewise allopathic doses will destroy homœopathic ones;

and he who supposes that what is termed a mixed practice should be regarded as holding a relationship to Homœopathy is deceived; it is really and truly allopathic and nothing else. But may not the drug administered in the crude form and in the ordinary allopathic doses correspond to the law of cure? To our mind even this is doubtful, and for this reason: the pathogenetic effects of drugs cannot be obtained by large doses. No intelligent physician expects the characteristic effects of *mercury* in ten or twenty grain doses; nor *Tart. Emetic* in two and three grain doses; nor of opium in two, three or five grains. The characteristic effects of drugs cannot be known when they are combined with one another; nor when alternated individually at short intervals. It is proved by the most careful experiments that to ascertain the pathogenetic effects of drugs, they must be taken in attenuated doses; and experience has also proved that in diseases proper, drugs can only be safely and usefully administered when attenuated, and in most cases in a high degree. Consequently, those who assert that the dose is of little or no importance in homœopathic practice, have not thoroughly considered the subject. The poisonous effects of drugs as detailed in the works on poisons, too much of which is incorporated in the Homœopathic *Materia Medica*, is of secondary value in genuine homœopathic practice. Take, for example, those diseases in which the symptoms show the homœopathicity of *arsenic*. The severity of *arsenic* symptoms as recorded in the works on poisons, where large doses of that mineral had been taken, bear little resemblance to those of diseases by the most active miasms or other causes. A careful examination will show, that drug symptoms obtained by attenuated drugs resemble more nearly the symptoms of diseases from whatever causes. Again, some drugs do not act medicinally in the crude form and in large doses, as charcoal, lachesis, lycopodium and others; but when attenuated, the symptoms they produce are numerous and strongly marked, so that

whatever view may be taken of the subject, it will be found that the purest pathogenetic effects of drugs have been obtained from them in an attenuated form, and some of them, as lachesis, in a high potency, even to the 30th. Ample experience shows that the curative effects of drugs are best obtained from comparatively mild impressions upon the living organism, which is, when diseased, exceedingly susceptible to drug action. Now, if a healthy organism can feel, which it may, the 30th potency of drugs, and responds so distinctly that a record can be made of the symptoms, how much more powerful must be the impression on the organism when its susceptibility is exalted by disease? This view gives a plausible reason, why the 200, 800, 2000 attenuations effect cures. These facts show why it is that in cases where the dose is such as to produce symptoms peculiar to the drug administered, the cure is not as prompt as where the drug impression is so slight as not to be perceived by the patient, or if so, exceedingly slight.

Therefore we claim, that Homœopathy and Allopathy cannot be mixed. When it is attempted, Allopathy necessarily prevails, and such practitioners are all allopathists; and the profession and the public should so understand it. We have known allopathic associations, in their ignorance of this subject, exclude men from among them who never practiced Homœopathy, but only declared their belief in the law of cure, not as the only law of cure; and avowed, they did not use, nor had they confidence in the small doses of Hahnemann. Now, if allopathists understood Homœopathy, as almost every one of them wickedly declares, they never would exclude from their communion such practitioners. The time, however, is approaching, when this matter will be understood better; as yet, there are very few, comparatively, who appreciate the doctrines and the rules of practice of Hahnemann; they will stand the test of time. Few comprehend them, because few have thoroughly studied them. His *ORGANON* is a neglected book.

Many have never seen it, and many more have never read it. Finally, the downfall of Allopathy can only be accomplished by a pure Homœopathic practice; and a pretended mixed practice, which is in fact allopathic, only tends to perpetuate confidence in a pernicious system.

## OBSERVATIONS ON HOMŒOPATHY.

BY DR. GROSS.

THERE are three propositions which appertain exclusively to Homœopathy, and which constitute its essence.

1. To try the medicaments on healthy persons, before administering them to the diseased.

2. To choose every medicament according to the analogy of its symptoms.

3. To administer but single medicaments, and in suitable doses.

The first of these propositions is so true and so evident, that we do not conceive how medicine could have existed so many centuries before Hahnemann, without its having been proclaimed and put in practice by physicians. Not one of the partisans of the doctrine of Hahnemann has hitherto dared to attack this fundamental principle, and there are many among its adversaries who have recognised it openly as indispensable. He who opposes its progress does it without a better conviction, acting merely from a spirit of opposition; he does not know what he says, because he defends nonsense. This principle will last forever, the whole world cannot destroy it.

The second proposition is not less true, although less evident at first sight; it has been violently attacked by thousands of physicians, but there is no question here of the partisans of the ancient medical system, who, for want of experience, cannot possibly pass an impartial judgment; but physicians even, who have actually adopted this principle, have asked what we understand by analogy. Hahnemann understands by analogy the morbid symptoms carefully compared with those of the medicament to be chosen, keeping account of the characteristic and important symptoms. The medicament which reproduces exactly the accidents of a given disease, answers the best, according to him, for the affection, and promises to become a true specific. We have, according to our treatment, two problems to resolve.

1. To ascertain the nature of each morbid affection, and to choose a remedy whose effects on the healthy body resemble the diseases to be cured.

Hahnemann seems only to reject that knowledge which we have a right to expect from every well-informed physician; but when we consider the great care he has taken in the examination of a disease, that he did not neglect the slightest circumstance, that he distinguished, with an extraordinary talent, the essential symptoms from those which are unessential; when we reflect, besides, that he has characterised in a masterly manner, in the notes to the first two volumes of his *Materia Medica*, the tendency of the action of the medicaments, we cannot doubt that he has made use of that physiological and pathological knowledge which he possessed in so eminent a degree.

How could he have discovered, without this knowledge, that *Conium Maculatum* is a specific in the hypochondriasis peculiar to men of stern habits, and that *Solanum Nigrum* is the very remedy for egotism? We need not mention many other cases, which prove in a most incontestable manner his talent in this respect. Those who flatter themselves that they follow him, but have not the requisite knowledge, are very much mistaken.

The instructive notes with which Hahnemann has enriched his first two volumes of the *Materia Medica* become more scarce in the subsequent ones. I am convinced it would have been better had he not discontinued them. The experiments since published by his disciples are poor in such annotations; the consequence is, that those of less experience do not know how to use them. Every one has not the faculty of making Hahnemann-like experiments with medicaments; very few can be compared with him in this respect.\*

Many homœopathists have declared that it is sufficient to know the general effect of each medicament upon the healthy body, the principal tendency of its action, without considering the slighter shades (*nuances*) peculiar to the action of a medicine. In the practice, they limit themselves to catch the *ensemble* of each disease, without descending to the special symptoms, and they administer the remedy which seems to be analogous. In this manner they prescribe for an atony of the stomach, with perverse secretions, *Acidum Sulphu-*

*ricum*; for a sur-excitation of the nerves of the stomach, with atony of its muscular fibres, *Nux Vomica*; for cramps of the stomach, with a disposition to constipation, and a predominant lymphatic system, *Conium Maculatum*; for constipation, accompanied and kept up by general weakness, with a less active circulation, *Ferrum Metallicum*: what the medicaments want in quality is replaced by quantity. In this manner we fall back to the generalisation of the old school, and this extreme direction is as fatal to the progress of art as the opposite method, which consists in covering mechanically the symptoms, without appreciation of their physiological dependence.

We shall reach our aim much safer by keeping the middle point (*juste milieu*); most homœopaths follow that course, and become thus more perfect in their diagnosis and in their knowledge of the *Materia Medica*.

The third proposition of Hahnemann, to administer but single medicaments, and in suitable doses, is as evident as the first. What reasonable opposition can the old school make to the new on this point? Can they defend their mixture of drugs—an absurdity which most of them despise in their hearts? They will renounce it when they understand their medicaments better. Their whole *Materia Medica* is but the fabrication of ignorance, and the iron hand by which they intend to oppose all movement of liberty in therapeutics, will in time prove beneficial to the only right mode of making experiments with medicaments.

It is true that the administering two medicaments at the same time has been recommended, but every judicious mind considers this an absurdity. We might as well mix three or four remedies; this would be a backward step, and open the door to the gross empiricism of the old school.

It is a different thing to administer two medicaments alternately. Many have condemned this method, but unjustly; it is of decidedly practical utility: as each remedy has its physiological affinity, their alternate use may be of great advantage. The dose of the medicament has given rise to much discussion.

Hahnemann administered, in the beginning of his practice, very strong doses. He prescribed once for a person of delicate constitution, suffering from severe colic, four grains of *Hellebore*, repeating the dose every day; the patient thought this too little, and he doubled the dose, so as to

\* I think the provings of Dr. Hering, of Philadelphia, are excellent, and nobody will find fault with his *Lachesis*. Who would like to be without it?

take sixteen grains in less than two days. He was cured in a short time, but not without a terrible homœopathic exacerbation. This and other experience brought Hahnemann to the conviction that the enormous doses may easily become injurious, and induced him to administer smaller doses.\*

He found that the efficacy of his medicaments did not diminish in the same proportion; and he became convinced that the smallest atom of a medicament, if administered homœopathically, possesses sufficient energy to cure serious, even chronic maladies. Many medicaments gain in medical properties, in proportion as they are less material; such is the case with *Calcar.*, and with *Carb. Veget.* and *Animal*, etc. It is also certain that the higher dilutions are not only more efficacious, but cannot be replaced by others, and render more service than the low dilutions. There are even affections which are easier cured by the olfaction of a high dilution than by the internal administration of a medicament.

These are facts certified by experience, which nothing can destroy. The physician has to choose the dose in each case, which is not very easy. We may set it down as a rule, that chronic maladies are better affected by higher dilutions, whilst lower dilutions answer better in acute cases. The general law in point of the dose may be found as follows: *Choose the dose, in each individual case, in such a manner that it shall be sufficiently strong to produce the necessary organic reaction, and weak enough not to push it to excess.*

It is evident that everything depends upon the receptivity of the patient—a receptivity which the physician should appreciate under all circumstances. There are chronic cases where the nervous irritability is so great, that the patient can scarcely bear the olfaction of the medicament, whilst in others, the torpidity and the atony are such that all our dilutions produce no effect. In such cases stronger doses are requisite.

It is without doubt that the different dilutions modify their effects according to their greater or less energy; our knowledge, however, is very much behind in this respect, and our successors will learn many things on this point.

Repeating the doses was, in the first editions of Hahnemann's *Organon*, prohibited; but the Asiatic cholera taught him its necessity; and experience has since

proved that the repetition of a medicament is indispensable in most cases.

As we have seen, homœopathy has continued to remain true to its essential principles, which half a century has neither overthrown nor brought into oblivion. It has only lost with time what was not essential; what was susceptible of development has become more perfect; far from losing, it is but gaining, and we may look into futurity with confidence. All the efforts of its adversaries to destroy and overthrow it have failed. What will homœopathy be in half a century? To judge from the past, certainly more perfect and well established.

## HOMŒOPATHY.

Confidence in the Homœopathic practice, based upon observation or personal experience merely, is scarcely wise or safe during these days of spectacled, stern-featured and stiff-necked Orthodoxy. Every friend of the system should be able to give substantial reasons for his faith. In his social intercourse, he is liable to be brought face to face with some learned Professor or other, whose approbation he may value, if he desires the esteem of great men, or whose opinions he may solicit, if he is disposed, as very many are, to think himself incompetent to make use of the brains which God has given him. In the presence of such a personage, what man of modest pretensions can help bowing in profound respect. His face furrowed by the ploughshare of thought, his eyes gleaming with the concentrated wisdom of twenty centuries, his manly form erect and wearing the insignia of the fathers of Medicine, his sphere of almost irresistible power, constitute him not only a most remarkable, but a most awe-inspiring being.

"Most learned and reverend Sir! What is your opinion of the new Medicine called Homœopathy?"

"Ah! 'pillieules'!—too small a business for 'men that have bones in them.' In the language of the Sage of Agawam—'the gizzard of a trifle!'"

"Reverend Sir! is there nothing that is good and useful in Homœopathy?"

"It does not profess to belong to this earth,—to deal with flesh and blood; how then can it be good or useful? It professes to deal with diseases beyond materiality, with which, if

\* *Spleine Medicinische Schriften*, von S. Hahnemann, vol. i., p. 199.

there be such diseases, it is manifest we can have nothing to do. How insane to talk of travelling through the air, when we were made to walk upon the earth!"

"Most learned Sir! Homœopathists *do* profess to cure diseases in these our mortal bodies."

"Tush! Tush! Do they not say that diseases are of a spiritual nature? and how is it possible that 'pillieules' can cure such diseases as we daily meet with?"

"Learned Sir! are not diseases of a spiritual as well as material nature? which is the doctrine, as I have been informed, of Homœopathists?"

"Pah! What do we know of spirit? Matter—matter is what we have to do with in this world;—meat and bread for the hungry stomach; air to carry oxygen into the lungs, and carbon out of them; magnesia to neutralise, chemically, acidity of the *primaæ viæ*; iron and lime for the blood, when the former, as ingredients of the latter, are in deficiency; oil and rhubarb for sluggish bowels; calomel for deranged liver; quinine for intermittents; cod-liver oil for serofula!"

"Learned Sir! is it your opinion that there is nothing of spirituality in disease? The question, if considered simply with reference to the truth or falsity of the case, has seemed to me to be one of vital importance. If it be true, that diseases are not wholly material, but are also spiritual, may not those who, claiming to be medical philosophers, trespass upon the domains of spirit, incur the penalty of law, and be deprived of their possessions as of ill-gotten gains? In my humble judgment, all truth is of practical value."

"Absurdity! What is the use of crazing one's brains with inquiries into what cannot, in the nature of things, be understood? It is my opinion that diseases are not spiritual. And if they are, it would be useless to acknowledge the fact, as its recognition would not help us to the learning we seek, or aid us in our method of treating disease."

"Learned Sir! what am I to understand by the phrase, *modus operandi* of remedies? I have been accustomed to regard it as implying a vital (spiritual) principle pervading the whole organism, and determining the course of operations of medicines in the human body."

"Sir! your idea is erroneous. *Modus operandi* is a term applied to the general principle upon which remedies act in morbid states

of the body! Remedies may, in general, act upon the human organism in one of three ways: 1. By actual or immediate contact, and by absorption or mediate contact. 2. By an impulse conveyed by the nerves, through an impression made on the stomach or elsewhere. 3. By contiguous or continuous sympathy, or by that which is excited by mere proximity or continuity of parts! The terms impulse, impression, sympathy, proximity, continuity—must satisfy you that we are not guilty of any theory respecting the interior or inmost nature of disease."

"Most respected Sir! with what arguments can I meet the advocates of Homœopathy, who maintain that the Allopathic idea of the *modus operandi* of drugs is false? They say that it does not represent what actually takes place in the body, or that it gives but an imperfect account of it; that impulse, impression, sympathy, &c., are learned jargon."

"Tell the impertinent blockheads, that the learning of two thousand years is not thus to come to naught by their stolidity; that what the learned have believed, and still believe, to be true, cannot be false."

"But, Sir! suppose the *modus operandi* of drugs is not just such as you have described. Is not the body older and more learned than the wisest physicians? Have not men been its pupils from the days of Hippocrates to the present time? Can they have learned all its lore? May they not have lost sight of, or been blind to, the most important of its teachings, in their zeal to possess themselves of whatever pleased their fancy or gratified their self-love? Has it not been said, truly, that almost every so called fact in Physiology, has 'my truth' pinned to it, thereby securing for some learned claimant or other the credit of its *authorship*,—a mark as surely denoting, to practical eyes, that the characteristic weakness and ignorance of the *author* is to be found involved in that *truth*, or, in some way, associated with it?"

"Pah! Pah! I cannot hear such nonsense."

"The Homœopathists say, that there is a *modus operandi* of drugs, true to nature,—very nature,—of which, to a very considerable extent, without any theory respecting its essential character, they are able to avail themselves in the treatment of disease. For example, they say that the operation of a small quantity of Arsenic or Belladonna (supposed to have been introduced into the human body in

health) is the *modus operandi* of Arsenic or Belladonna; and that the symptoms and organic changes are the proper indices of that *modus operandi*. Assuming as also true, that symptoms and organic changes are the proper indices of the processes (the spiritual workings) of disease, they say that they can bring the *modus operandi* of drugs into such relation with those morbid processes, that the former (by superseding or by neutralising it, it does not matter which) will do away with the latter. This is accomplished by administering, in cases of disease, remedies whose *modus operandi* is similar to the *modus operandi*, so to speak, of the diseases respectively. In other words, Homœopaths administer drugs which, in certain quantities, are capable of producing in the system, symptoms similar, respectively, to the symptoms of the diseases they treat. Thus they avail themselves of all of the facts of the *living Pathology* and of the *living modus operandi* of drugs; without resting on insufficient data or unphilosophical speculations."

"Stupidity unsurpassed! Were their 'pillieules' grains of what they pretend to be, they would be fit subjects for the law and the gallows; as it is, the business is, I say, too small for 'men that have bones in them.'"

"But, my dear sir! is it more absurd, in itself, to expect the cure of disease from remedies administered according to a law 'similia similibus,' than from others administered in accordance with a law 'contraria contrariis?' Observation and experiment must have suggested and confirmed the existence of either law. May there not be more than one method of cure; and may not one method be more true to nature, and therefore more certain and safe, than another? May not the necessity of smaller quantities of medicine, under one mode of treatment than under another, be an evidence that the former is the better method? May not these questions be decided by experiment and fair deduction?"

"Most absurd to doubt, for a moment, the wisdom of the learned! Most absurd to think that 'similia similibus' can find any incarnation, except in the 'hair of the same dog' and like extravagances! Most absurd to believe that 'pillieules' are more than the 'gizzard of a trifle!' Men's eyes refuse to discern the atoms of the doses; the microscope cannot find them; chemistry is unable to discover a trace of them; slates cannot contain the figures

necessary to compute their infinitesimal quantity; reason can find no clue to them; and imagination stares into vacuity. Most absurd!"

"Sir! cures *are* effected by those 'pillieules,' and most decided and speedy ones too."

"Impossible! impossible!"

"Their evidence is too strong to be set aside. I am compelled to believe."

"Impossible! I repeat. The truth is, you uneducated men—uneducated, I mean, in medical learning,—are not competent to judge of these things. You cannot intelligently decide, whether Homœopathic cures, so called, are cures or not. You can act with safety, only by adhering strictly to orthodox teaching."

"You surprise me, Sir! If I am not competent to judge of the merits of Homœopathy, how am I to estimate properly your own system? Were I convinced of my inability to judge of the relative merits of Homœopathy and Allopathy, I should still have to decide for myself, and the probability would be that I should join the ranks of 'Young Physic,' and believe that there is no virtue at all in Medicine. In sickness I must or must not employ a Physician."

"Tush! tush! Is nothing to be conceded to the unanimous opinions of the learned in medicine, whose names have been and ever will be glorious? Be content to judge of tea, if you are a merchant—of cloths, if you are draper—or of shoes, if you are a cobbler; but let physicians judge for you in questions of medicine."

"I cannot agree with you, Sir, that the learned in medicine have always been unanimous respecting matters now acknowledged to be of vital importance. I have read that Harvey was the subject of malignant persecution for teaching the circulation of the blood; that Ambrose Paré was pursued with heartless rancor for tying arteries in cases of amputation, instead of applying boiling pitch to the stump, as was customary; that Groenveldt was committed to Newgate for using cantharides in dropsy; that Jenner was taunted and oppressed on account of his doctrine of vaccination. Indeed, it has seemed to me, in the course of my reflections upon Homœopathy, that its apparent insignificance is no valid argument against it; that all great things in medicine have had small beginnings—even in the language of the learned, in the 'gizzard of a trifle.' Besides, Sir, I am not at all sure that

men were intended to dwell only within the sphere of their respective professions; never to quit the smoke of their own chimneys to refresh themselves in the pure air of heaven; and not to make use of all their mental faculties, in determining, from sufficient evidence, and after due consideration, what is good for their souls and their bodies. And it seems to me, that what may constitute sufficient evidence need not imply profound and varied learning. The sailor may know nothing of naval architecture or the principles of navigation, yet he can very soon acquire ample confidence in his ship and his chart and compass. The traveller may know nothing of the principles and construction of the steam-engine, yet a very little observation or experience will convince him, that it can hurry him almost with the speed of the winds, from city to city, from country to country, down mighty rivers, and across the vast ocean."

"Stay, my dear Sir, you are right in the abstract. But I tell you there is nothing in Homœopathy. It is 'pillicules' and nothing but 'pillicules.' Homœopathists are ignoramuses or knaves. They are men, who for the most part, have failed of success in the legitimate walks of medicine, from ignorance, idleness and other causes. These men, unable from their shallow capacities and acquirements, to fight fairly, and to compete manfully with their brethren, have shrunk, as it were, behind the hedge, and turned assassins, to obtain a livelihood. Yet not content with practising a quackery, the absurdity of which has no parallel in history, these renegades lose no opportunity of placing their daggers in the reputation of legitimate medicine."

"Is it not possible, Sir, that you have made an unfair estimate of the character of homœopathic physicians? I am sure that there are honest and intelligent men among them. And admitting that there are such men amongst them as you have described, is there no way of accounting for the fact, except to the discredit of Homœopathy? Is it a fact, that none but men of high and well cultivated intellectual powers are capable of discerning what is *true*? Is it not rather a fact, recorded in innumerable places on the pages of history, beginning with the account of the apostles who were chosen by our Lord, and going through leaf after leaf, to the present time, that, in the divine providence, truth has always been revealed to men

through the medium of the pure heart rather than the subtle intellect? Again, is it a fact, that dishonest men are, in general, less able to discern what is practically *good* than others are? On the contrary, is it not true, that selfish men are far more wide awake to what may conduce to their pecuniary interests, than are men who regard their neighbors' welfare as their own? 'Wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together.' Whenever I hear opinions derided, simply because they may be held by men who are not of the highest standard of intellectual cultivation, I invariably ask the scoffers, whether they are aware that there is such a thing as *God's truth*, as well as *man's truth*? Whenever I am asked, why notably dishonest men are zealous in the cause of Homœopathy, I reply—Is there a fertile spot on the face of this beautiful globe, which is not more or less infested by vermin?"

"True, sir, true! But homœopathic physicians are *all* such as I have described. They reject all the science of 'true medicine,' as of no value, and rely solely upon their infinitesimal doses, and their vaunted law 'Similia similibus curantur.'"

"I have been informed, my dear Sir, that they do not reject *all* the science of your school, but only such portion of it as they deem erroneous and valueless. They cultivate the sciences of Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, Materia Medica, Hygiene and Therapeutics. They make no difference with you respecting the first named science. As to Physiology, it is said that they can make but little use of what is written in your books, because it is almost barren of truth. A writer, friendly to the homœopathic practice, in alluding to the *reputatae quæstiones* in Physiology, says 'Connection of structures in the body is also connection of functions, forces, modes and accidents. If the function of the spleen be unknown, so, precisely to the same extent, are the functions of the pancreas, the stomach, the omentum, and the liver; if the functions of the succenturiate kidneys be unknown, so are the functions of the diaphragm, the kidneys, the peritoneum, and indeed of the whole body; for the body is a continuous tissue, woven without a break in nature's loom. To be ignorant of a part, is to be ignorant of something that pervades the whole. The disease that affects the spleen, affects the whole, for the spleen is in all things, and all things are in the

spleen. To recur to the liver; what is the amount of knowledge respecting its functions? Precisely this, that the hepatic duct proceeds from it and carries bile into the duodenum. The bile and the duct are the sum and substance of the modern physiology of the liver; it is *prorsus in occulto* why either bile or duct should exist. The truth then is, that there is as much known about the liver as about the spleen, and no more; in the one case, it is known that there is an excretory duct, in the other that there is none. But it is held by them, that a true physiology is all important to the development of their science. It only can give a true and thorough explanation of the *modus operandi* of drugs, and afford a solution of the phenomena of disease. Until that science shall have been written, they must be content to arrive at truth by signs oftentimes uncertain, ambiguous, or of little significance. Oftentimes they must fail to reach it. Whose fault is it that they cannot do better? Certainly not theirs! They can accomplish much good; more, they maintain, than their allopathic brethren. Homœopaths are in a position analogous to that of the first tillers of the earth. The latter were without extensive knowledge of the qualities of soils, of the means of fertilising them, of the plants which would bear most abundantly and profitably in them, and of the means of renewing worn out land. The sun rose and set, rains fell, grass grew, seeds fell and sprung up before their eyes, all which naturally enough suggested to them what to do. The consequence was, that seed-time and harvest came and departed, as they now do and ever will do while time shall endure. Homœopaths have the signs of disease before their eyes; a central truth, shining as a sun, makes objects distinct and intelligible; and they labor with much acceptance and reward. The true physiology must throw its light into the dark recesses of pathology, and make that science bright with truth; and will also illustrate the now obscure science of the relations of the active principles of drugs to the human organism. Who can declare what the future has in store?"

Reader! we greatly fear, that most of the learned opponents of Homœopathy are in the predicament of the man who was bidden to the great supper, (Luke) who, instead of going, sent as an excuse, "I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come."

## HOMOEOPATHY AND ITS OPPONENTS.

(Continued from page 116.)

It was thought necessary by Dr. Blatchford to ask "pardon for quoting the 76th aphorism of the Organon." Its "language" was offensive to him, sounding in his ears "like that of the ignorant, mercenary empiric," rather than the "learned philosophers," and, "addressed more to the passions and prejudice of the unlearned multitude, than to the reason and reflection of the intelligent portion of mankind." It did not occur to Dr. B., when making up his "address," that its language might be regarded as offensive to other ears polite, and quite as well adapted to the taste of an ignorant multitude. The reason and reflection of the intelligent portion of mankind will not fail to sift the doctor's "illustrations." Though they are but chaff, time will tell the story.

"Paracelsus (says Dr. B.) and his chymistical followers," promised the world as much benefit from the exclusive employment of *minerals* in medicine, as Hahnemann and his "visionaries" pretend to accomplish by Homœopathy; and what is a little curious, he employs just about the same language. (Hahnemann must have thoroughly studied his works.) He calls Galen, Hippocrates, and their adherents, infants, idiots, sophisters, &c., &c., not worthy the name of physicians. He was a great braggart, this fellow Paracelsus, (so says Dr. Blatchford) and "bragged, too, (just note it) that a single drop of *his* medicines would go further than a drachm or an ounce" of other physicians. Hence we are to *infer* from all this, that Paracelsus and Hahnemann were very much of the same stamp, both arrogant, impudent, mercenary empirics. We have very little doubt that Hahnemann did *thoroughly study* the works of Paracelsus, and feel pretty sure that Dr. Blatchford *would have been better able to write truthfully and correctly had he done the same*. Investigation requires time and thought—not so calumny, as we intend to prove. The parallel between Hahnemann and Paracelsus runs pretty close in some respects, for both were learned men, and both have been most cruelly belied.

*Theophrastus von Hohenheim*, better known to medical men as *Paracelsus*, shared the lot of many men of genius and great reformers, only to be appreciated long after his death.

Why? "Opinions," says a distinguished Professor, "which have been prevalent during centuries, or which have been promulgated with much confidence by the leaders of the opinion of the day, are successively stamped as infallible, and it requires a conviction based on no ordinary grounds to raise doubts against established views, or such as are supported continually by specious argument. It is difficult to believe that which has been hitherto considered as true, to be but illusion and fallacy." With scarce an exception, the whole medical world has indulged in the usual erroneous opinions relating to Paraeelsus, and it will continue to be so, until his *authentic* writings are read, the history of his times studied, and the opinions of his contemporaries duly weighed, for there is not to be found in history another man who has been *so much* misunderstood. The most strange and contradictory sayings and doings are ascribed to him; and far from being judged according to the standard of his age, his real deserts are either not admitted or falsely interpreted, and results which he neither called forth nor intended are laid at his door. His very name has become the bye-name of any extraordinary assertion. And Dr. Blatchford would have us believe this to be true; we are to take it for granted that Paracelsus was the impersonation of impudence and folly.

While Paracelsus lived, and still more after his death, he was proclaimed, either as the first physician and philosopher, the leader of modern medicine, or, as a superlative quack, pietist, imbecile, and medical heretic. In 1573, *Dessenius* says of him:—"Magus monstruosus, superstitionis, impius et in Deum blasphemus, mendacissimus, nefandus impostor, ebriosus erro, monstrum, horrendum." Per contra *Morhof* says:—"Mirabile huic homini, uti non men, ita ingenium fuit, novus quasi literati orbis Cometa." We generally judge men by their actions, and authors by their writings; but, in order to do this with any degree of certainty and propriety, we have to be first convinced that the former have been faithfully related, and that the latter are genuine. If, therefore, a careful sifting of things be always necessary, how much more is it so if doings the most extraordinary are attributed to the same individual, and opinions the most contradictory assigned to the same author! Nowhere in history can we find such another example as that of Paracelsus, where the good

*name* of a man has been buried under the weight of books and opinions *falsely* attributed to him. He did not publish *any* of the old editions of his works, and we may well doubt if any book of his was published while he lived. He was surrounded by circumstances of an embarrassing nature, and had not time to give his writings the necessary polish; besides, most of his manuscripts were badly written, and then printed with numberless and most damning typographical mistakes. It is not denied that the writings of Theophrastus were odd, nay, more, that they were in some respects extravagant; therefore were they in great demand, and consequently they were *manufactured on speculation*. Furthermore, his MSS. mere mostly in the hands of amateurs, for the *savants* and medieval men of those times *did not value them*, or kept them entirely out of sight; indeed, *denied their existence*. *Theophrastus was a reformer; his bold and penetrating assertions made him a stumbling-block for the many who only exist by the remastication of old materials, and the sturdy adherence to the traditional and received*. To reach the height of such a Colossus, the scientific alluvium required centuries.

It is very certain that Paracelsus did not and could not write the half that has been attributed to him. Yet he wrote and dictated (a favorite mode of his) a great deal, and with such astonishing rapidity, as to lead to the belief that he was possessed of demons. "Ad dictata excipienda excitabat: quæ tam expedite recitabantur, ut demonum instinctu ea suggeri oporinus se putasse sœpe affrimentaret."

Like Hahnemann, Paracelsus had thrown in his way many impediments of no ordinary character. The Imperial College of Censorship waged war against him, and all reformers in those days, and so fierce was the hostility of this body, that he sought the protection of the Estates of Carinthia. Indeed, the whole age "ran a muck" at him. Universities, governments, corporations, learned societies, physicians and surgeons, clergymen and laymen, and even *savants* by profession—all condemned his opinions, whilst the latter did not scruple to confess that they had not studied his work, and were not inclined to do so!

Has Dr. Blatchford ever heard of the "*Kleine Chirurgie*" of Theophrastus? Perhaps not, therefore we make an extract of a few lines from p. 250:—"They quarrel with me

in that I write differently from what their own writings are ; the cause, however, lies not in my ignorance, but in theirs. Because I stand alone, and am new, and write German, is no reason why they should scorn my writings ! I use strange words on account of the strange nature of my science. And who shall gainsay, that if there start up something new, it should not bear also a new name ?"

We really believe Dr. B. wholly ignorant of the medical career and doctrines of Paracelsus. He was assuredly a most extraordinary man, so much so, that his contemporaries made it a matter of dispute, whether he derived his great wisdom and art from God or the Devil. Settled at Basle in 1527, he became city physician and gave lectures on medicine, physic and surgery. But his opponents never ceased their hostility to him, and after two years he quitted Basle and went to Salzburg, where he died on the 24th September, 1541, at the early age of forty-eight.

No one thing annoyed Paracelsus more than the fierce opposition he encountered in his endeavors to prescribe in a simple, rational and conscientious manner. It was this very *simplicity* of his prescriptions, the happy characteristic of the present age of medical science, which made him the stumbling-block of his contemporaries, whose fame and income were encroached upon by the *efficacy of the new method*. With great truth, and a stinging pungency of language, he says—"the longer the scribbling, the shorter the intellect ; the longer the recipe, the less virtue is in it—Don't be astonished that I write such *short* prescriptions, the reason thereof being, that whatever might be added would damn the medicine." This was enough to raise against him the wrath of a host of empty-heads, whose gains were thus unceremoniously put in jeopardy. Nor was Paracelsus only a skilful physician, but also a practical chemist, and it was from his almost constant exposure to the noxious vapours of his laboratory, that his premature death was occasioned. Of himself, his theory and his practice, there were strange opinions entertained, and how could it be otherwise, he asks, "to those who have never walked in the sunshine!"

When Theophrastus died, there was extinguished a brilliant meteor, glancing for a moment on the horizon of his age, and then vanishing without a trace. Neither through him

nor after him did there appear a single man to emulate his power and spirit, or to raise higher the edifice which he had founded and sketched, and for which he had collected the materials ; for it would be idle to speak, in this respect, of those his hangers-on, and repeaters, who were only capable of babbling empty words and formulae, or catching the mere chaff of his writings. We of later generations have recognised in him no idly burning *ignis fatuus*, but a star fraught with living light and heat, the pregnant gem of a legitimate and progressive development.

The philanthropic ideas of Theophrastus were far beyond the cold spirit of his age. "The highest thing," he says, "which a physician possesses is art, then love and hope. Love teacheth the art, and hope giveth the right confidence. The medical man should be mild, true, serious and reserved in speech. But genuine art does not consist in knowing, but in doing and accomplishing." (*Grosse Wundarznei.*)

Of the philosophy of disease, now termed general pathology, the notions of Theophrastus were eminently astonishing for the time he lived in. What will Dr. Blatchford say to the following specimens ? "Disease is a very relative state : As there are various degrees of softness in silver, and yet every kind is silver, so is it with the alteration of health. It is as hard to find perfect health, as a piece of earth without a weed ; *disease is essentially immaterial, and as little to be laid hold of as the wind* ; we must not then expect to remove it by mere material means. Every disease does not manifest itself openly, but frequently is concealed under a foreign aspect, and this the doctor should well look to. The essence of diseases is various, and the doctor who knows not this is blind. The old doctrine of the four cardinal humours is all fudge, and the doctors hid their lies in the humours. The humours are born of the disease, not the disease of them. The physician who finds all diseases in the humours, prescribes nothing but evacuants."

Listen again, dear Dr. Blatchford, to a few more of the axioms of your "*chymistical*" Paracelsus, your "*braggart*" and pretender. "Merely to cure is not medicine ; but well to cure the present and guard against the future malady, that is true art. Nature does not allow herself to be forced or drawn to another course ; you must follow her, not she you. If

you apply treatment which does not suit her, you injure her. That is good doctering to drive out a disease in the way nature likes ; but it is bad doctering to dare to get rid of it after your own fashion. Every one should consider that a physician is only the servant of nature and not her master ; consequently medicine has to follow nature's will." Again he says :—" If the doctors would make a clear conscience, they must confess, that many would get well sooner *without* them, than *with* them, if they would only turn over their work to nature." Still again let us hear the declaration boldly made, "That *contraria contrariis curantur* is false, and never was the case in medicine : but health and disease, they are opposite."

We beg pardon for having occupied so much time in defending Paracelsus from Dr Blatchford's estimate of his abilities and learning. The attempt to persuade us to pronounce him an ignorant, babbling, boastful empiric was as weak as it was foolish, and, under the circumstances, altogether inexcusable, seeing that Dr. Blatchford might have *better* informed himself on the subject in studying that stupendous monument of industry and learning, "*Zug Wunddigung des Theophrastus von Hohenheim*. Von Dr. Karl Fried. Hein. Marx, of the University of Gettlingen," and published there in 1842.

We doubt not that Hahnemann did "thoroughly study" the works of Paracelsus, and found in them a profitable occupation of time. Both were men of the most extraordinary abilities, and both *reformers* of the medical doctrines and theories of their day and generation. Both have been most villainously slandered, but their *true* reputation will be ultimately understood, and their memory cherished in the hearts of millions yet unborn.

For the present we take leave of Dr. Blatchford, and hope he will not take it amiss if we solicit him to give the following his profound attention : "The suppression of some facts, and a certain arrangement or coloring in the exhibition of others, may have all the effect of *positive falsehood* in misleading the judgment."

Oct. 25, 1851.

KOPP.

(To be continued.)

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The article headed **HOMOEOPATHY** is from the pen of Hamilton Ring, M. D., of Baltimore, Md. It is worthy a careful reading.

*The American Magazine; devoted to Homœopathy and Hydropathy, etc. Edited by J. H. PULTE, M. D., and H. P. GATCHELL, M. D.*

THE above is the title of a monthly periodical, published in Cincinnati, O.

We, with the rest of the world, set a high value on water: fresh water and salt water; cold water and hot water. We believe in a daily thorough washing of the whole body while in health, and in most cases during sickness ; and that it makes but little difference how it is done, if it be done, and well done. We believe in water for a drink—as the very best drink to quench thirst, whether in health or in disease.

We believe that pure water is not a drug ; that it has none of the properties of a drug ; and of course cannot be substituted for drugs.

We do not believe it proper to dignify the use of water in diseases by the term *Hydropathy*.

We believe that what is termed a "water cure" course of treatment, is essentially *dietetic*; that is, it consists in a sort of regulation, (mostly arbitrary, because not depending on any fixed principles,) in food, drink, cleansing, and exercise, which is useful. This is no new doctrine. Every physician, of whatever school, always aims to regulate the diet of the sick ; as well as their drink, washing, and exercise. True, few, very few, believe the *starvation* doctrine of most of the "water cure" establishments of this country, applicable to all cases of disease. A kind PROVIDENCE has supplied man with a variety of food, and experience has proved to him that every one cannot thrive on the same food ; neither in kind nor in quantity. One thrives on vegetables alone, and another dies by the same means. Fish agrees with one, and "flesh" with another. The reason of this is unknown. To our mind, the CREATOR has wisely rendered it impossible for man to find out that which would be useless for him to know. It is not known why the inclination of men differs in regard to food, both in kind and in quantity : and no benefit would accrue if we did know. The tendency in the human mind to generalisation on insufficient grounds, is the reason why of late years the use of water in sickness has been called a "system" of healing—hydropathy. The bold assertion that water, and water alone, is the only true agent to cure human maladies is not only not true but pernicious ; and places that mode

of practice upon the very border of quackery.

We do not see why the editors of the above Journal should, by the very title of their periodical, separate the use of water in the usual dietetics from the drug treatment. Does the homœopathic practice reject the use of water in diseases? Certainly not. The pretended indication in diseases for the use of water alone, is drawn from theories of diseases, which is the basis of allopathic practice. No true art of healing can have such a foundation. The water treatment is conducted by experience without a therapeutic law; and Homœopathy is experience with a law. The former is empirical, and the latter scientific. The water treatment from its empirical nature must of necessity be uncertain and unsafe, and can never be otherwise; and physicians are compelled to fall back upon its well-established uses as an agent in *dietetics*. If this ground had been taken by the magazine under notice, it would have been unexceptionable, but as it is, we regret to be compelled to differ from our respected colleagues, the editors.

The practice of genuine Homœopathy is known comparatively to but few, yet most of us seem to be satisfied with a loose, confused, and too frequently unsuccesful practice of that mode of healing. We hardly dare speak out what we know of the pernicious practice that is in vogue among even those who rank in the estimation of the public as leading practitioners of the homœopathic school. We are pained on account of the spurious practice in the name of homœopathy, and believed to be genuine by physicians and the people.

Is it proper, therefore, that homœopathic journals, instead of laboring to correct the errors in the practice, should represent that there is another system of treatment other than that of Homœopathy? Prove that water can in any way accomplish, in the cure of diseases, what drugs homœopathically applied are believed to do, and the whole system of Hahnemann, which we revere so much, with thousands of others, is utterly disproved. To say, as some have said, that water is homœopathic to diseases, is asserting what cannot be true, for the reason, water is not a drug, and cannot even imitate drug action. We have not room for extended remarks on this subject. We mean to say that water belongs to *dietetics*, and Homœopaths should keep it in the place nature has fixed for

it. To undertake to build it up as a new *system* of healing, and introduce it as such into Homœopathy, leads to fallacious theorising, which tends to undervalue the therapeutic law, the essential property of Homœopathy. The bane of Homœopathy is *eclectism*, and we perceive, in an editorial in the second number of the magazine, enough to satisfy us that the spirit of eclectism may, after awhile, hold a controlling influence over that print; not that we doubt Dr. Pulte, who stands, we think, deservedly high in our school; but of his associate we cannot speak, for all we know of him is through his articles in the magazine. These show him to be a much better disclaimer than a sound reasoner. He is evidently an honest man, a zealous man, and he is entitled to credit for perceiving some of the embarrassments he labors under in his efforts to establish water treatment as "an additional method of cure."

The "American Magazine" is a large octavo, of 32 pages and a cover. Its "make up" is in good taste, and we doubt not it will have a large circulation. There are several good articles on homœopathic practice, by Dr. Pulte, who, in the number before us, does not seem to meddle with the water department. Subscription \$1 a year, if paid during the first quarter.

#### THE HIGH POTENCIES.

By DR. C. CROSENO, of Paris, France.

AFTER having employed the high potencies for three years, I arrived at the following conclusions:

1. A single dose of a high dynamisation is sufficient, whether in acute or chronic diseases.
2. The repetition of the same remedy is seldom desirable.
3. The action of one of these doses often continues in acute diseases for several days, and in chronic diseases for months.
4. After the administration of a high potency, there are frequently manifested symptoms which are not found in the known symptoms of the remedy (for example, an intermittent pulse after *Silicea* and *Tart. Emet.*, tubular eruptions after *Ant. Crud.*, &c.) Such symptoms are of great importance, and scarcely comparable with those obtained by massive doses in the pure experiments.
5. The high potencies cure in cases where the low do not seem to produce the least (curative) effect; for example, in case of *tænia*, where the low dilutions aggravate sensibly, without producing any subsequent improvement.

It would be easy for me to report a very great number of cases. I shall relate, however, a few in which the cure was obtained by a single dose of a high potency. I shall refrain entirely from giving any name to the disease, and state merely the symptoms observed.

I. A young lady, of feeble constitution, complained of great debility, of frequent pains at the heart, of frequent lancinations in the heart, extending to the left shoulder-blade; violent pulsations of the heart, frequently intermitting, irregular, and sometimes slow, a kind of trembling of the heart; then she was obliged to lie down from weakness. The pulse was slow (50) and intermittent. Burning between the shoulders, great weakness in the back after walking. Hands and feet cold, sensation of numbness in the hands—sometimes one or the other upper extremity is entirely benumbed, which disappears after friction. The sleep is not refreshing. She feels better in the morning after rising. At 11 o'clock in the morning her sufferings commence, and continue till she retires. The palpitations, the pains about the heart and the intermittence of the pulse, have continued for some years. She has taken no medicine for several months. I gave her a single dose of *Nat. Mur.* 300. The next day the pulse became more frequent and less intermittent. Upon the third day she found her strength increase, and at length improved from day to day. The pains at the heart and the palpitations disappeared entirely, and a month after having taken the remedy, the pulse was regular.

As this cure was one of the first which I had obtained by the high dynamisations, I published it in the *Homœopathic Examiner* of April 7th, 1846. A month after I was conversing about this patient with the colleague who had had the charge of her before she came into my hands, who told me that he had treated her a very long time, and that he had given her *Natr. Mur.* from the first to the 30th attenuation without having observed the least improvement. This colleague afterwards made experiments with the high potencies, and convinced himself both of their efficiency and their superiority over the other preparations.

V. A young student, nineteen years of age, who had had several attacks of the bilious fever, and had taken large doses of calomel, complained of pain in the throat. I found the following symptoms: during the last thirty-six hours he has been unable to swallow anything: in the throat there is considerable inflammation, with small ulcerations—a fetid odor of the mouth—the neck is very painful when touched externally—the face and eyes yellow—the face swollen, especially about the eyes—an abundant flow of saliva from the mouth—sleeplessness. A dose of *Lachesis* 800, in the morning, afforded such prompt relief that at noon the patient was able to take nourishment, and the next day he was completely cured.—*N. W. Jour. of Hom.*

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*Dr. C.*—We thank you for the interest you have taken in the circulation of this Journal.

We confess we do feel reluctant to copy articles written by American Homœopaths almost at our own doors, and sent to European Journals for publication. We do not dispute the right of writers to publish their papers in whatever periodical they may choose. Very little notice is taken by the English Homœopathic Journals, of the labors of American Physicians, which is in our judgment a remarkable fact.

We do not believe that our English colleagues have any dishonorable feelings towards their American brethren, but they have been misled by private communications from this very city.

*J. V. R.*—We must decline your communication. Its publication would cause an unprofitable controversy with the "*Homœopathist*."

*T. R. M.*—Strictly speaking there cannot be a "mixed practice." If allopathic measures are employed in connection with homœopathic, the former prevails, and the treatment is allopathic, and nothing else.

*J. W. M. D.*—Your article is too long, and rather dry. We must decline it. We lament as much as yourself the want of mental discipline of too many members of the profession. The evil, we fear, must be endured. The healing art requires careful and close reasoning, as much so as the law; but should a lawyer in the practice of his profession allow himself in loose reasoning as do many physicians, he would lose most of his cases, and consequently his reputation. We agree with you, that most of the prescriptions made for the sick are only "guess work." In the allopathic practice it cannot be otherwise, but in Homœopathic practice it is unpardonable.

*B. A. O.*—It is possible that we are more nice than wise; that we stand too much on *etiquette*, but we cannot reconcile it with consistency for us to publish in detail, proceedings of meetings of Homœopathic physicians, mailed to us in a daily or weekly newspaper we know not by whom.

*Homœopathist.*—We have again and again in all kinds of forms, asserted that there can be but two modes of medical practice—Allopathic and Homœopathic. The purest of the former is known by the name of Thompsonianism; and the latter by Hahnemannism. The allopathic assumes all sorts of forms, having no principle; but the Homœopathic has a fixed principle, a departure from which destroys it, and the practice becomes allopathic.

*S.*—We have some additional information of the experiments of Dr. Rutter by his *Magnetoscope*, which goes to establish their truth. By some mishap, Dr. Rutter's book has not reached us, although it was published in London a month ago. The *Magnetoscope*, and the experiments by it, will be noticed in the March number of this journal.

# THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

*"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."*

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NO. 11.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

## OBSERVATIONS ON THE THREE CURRENT METHODS OF TREATMENT.\*

By S. HAHNEMANN.

THERE have been till now but three current modes of treatment (the *treatment of diseases* having apparently not yet been discovered,) viz: *the treatment of the name*, *the treatment of the symptom*, and *the treatment of the cause*.

### TREATMENT OF THE NAME.

*Interchangeable remedies, compound prescriptions.*

The method which from the remotest time has always found the most partisans, which is the most convenient of all, is the treatment of the name. "If the patient has the gout, give him sulphuric acid; the remedy for rheumatism is mercury; cinchona is good for ague, simaruba for dysentery, squills for dropsy." Here the mere name of the supposed disease is sufficient to determine the parempiric† for a remedy which crude, indiscriminating experience has sometimes found useful in diseases that have been superficially termed gout, rheumatism, ague, dysentery, dropsy, but have neither been accurately described nor carefully distinguished from similar affections.

From the very frequent cases of the failure of this quackish sort of practice, which is so repulsive to me that I cannot dwell long upon it, some well-intentioned adherents of this method were from time to time induced to seek for several remedies for each name of a disease; the rude experience of domestic practice, the oracles of old herbalist books, or fantastic speculation (signature), were the gross sources whence these remedies flowed in abundance.

This was the plan pursued: "If A should not answer, try B, and if this will not do, a choice lies among C, D, E, F, G; I have often found H and K of service; others recommend most highly J and L, and I know some who cannot sufficiently praise M, U, and Z, whilst others extol N, R, and T. S and X also are said not to be bad in this disease. Some English physician recently recommended Q in preference to all others in this affection; I certainly would be inclined to give it a trial."

"How frequently have I formerly cured ague with cinchona," says another practitioner, "and yet of late years I have met with some cases where I could do nothing with it. One of these, in which bark had long been used in vain, I might almost say with injury to the patient, an old woman in the neighborhood cured with chamomile tea. One of my colleagues cut short two cases of ague with a few emetics, in which neither chamomile tea nor bark in the largest doses was of the slightest service. I tried this method in cases where neither of the two latter medicines did good, but the emetics did no good in them; I bethought myself of giving sal-ammoniac, and to my astonishment the patients recovered. Yet have I met with cases where, after bark, chamomile and emetics were tried in vain, sal-ammoniac also was of no use. Just about that time I read that gentian and sometimes nux vomica were useful in ague. I tried them. The former answered in two cases, the latter in three, where neither gentian nor the other medicines were useful. Belladonna is also said to have cured certainly and thoroughly some agues where all other remedies have been fruitless; and some assert they have met with the same result from the use of James' powder and calomel. The bark of mahogany and that of the horse-chestnut have also been lauded; but I don't believe they have much power, I can't tell why. We all know

\* From *Hufeland's Journal of Practical Medicine*, vol. xi, pt. 4. 1809.

† Parempiricism may stand for the evil demon, empiricism for the good genius of experience

what good effects opium often has. Recently I was much struck with a case of quartan ague, that had tormented a robust peasant for a year and a half, in spite of the employment of every conceivable remedy; to my astonishment it yielded to a few drops of tincture of ignatia, sent to him by a foreign professor. And, between you and me, I must give credit to our hangman for having occasionally effected radical cures of agues that were ineffectually treated by myself and my colleagues with the above remedies, by means of some red drops, which I am credibly informed contained arsenic, although he caused with it in some cases chronic complaints, dropsy, and even death. So obstinate and capricious are agues sometimes!"

My friend, do you never suspect that all these were different kinds of agues, or rather intermittent diseases differing completely from one another? If it were possible that an ague could be so capricious and obstinate, wherefore did it yield so readily to one remedy? Do you not suspect that there may be more than one, that there may be perhaps twenty different kinds of intermittent fever, which parempirical imbecility has included under one head, has asserted all to belong to a single species (intermittent fever,) and has sought to combat all with a single remedy, whereas each requires its peculiar remedy, without thereby deserving to be called capricious or obstinate.

"Ah! but the practical physician has neither the inclination nor the time to draw such fine distinctions betwixt similar diseases and to assign to each its appropriate remedy. If the patient tells us he has intermittent fever, I and my colleagues give him" (you fool! do you not wish to become a bit wiser?) "at first an emetic or two; if that does no good, or does harm, we then give him cinchona; if that does not cure in large doses, neither the common sort nor the royal bark, we then give—"

Just so; you blindly give one after the other until you hit upon the right one. But you can only go on with your experiments as long as the patience, the purse, or the life of your patient lasts! Your obedient servant, doctor!

And thus there arose long lists of simple drugs (*interchangeable remedies, succedaneums*) which were all, without distinction, said to be serviceable for one disease.

Out of these lists of the names of drugs, the more elegant physicians, to give themselves an air of rationality whilst they

were guilty of the grossest parempiricism, constructed their compound prescriptions—three, four, or six ague remedies, five, six, or eight dropsy remedies, all jumbled together, drawn at hap-hazard from the list, which were recorded in their manuals under the name "Intermittent fever," "Dropsy," and used in practice by coupling them with some kind of spirit, syrup, &c. In this case, too, the mere name of the disease was combatted, but, by your leave, reader, much more methodically! with several weapons at a time. "If one ingredient in the mixture does not do any good, then the second and the third, or if all these strings break, the fourth, the sixth, and the eighth, tenth, fifteenth, must effect the desired object." Thenceforth no one would look so unlearned as to prescribe only a single medicine.\* Thenceforth no prescription was given that did not contain a hotch-potch of simple drugs; and that not for investigated, definite diseases, but for mere names of diseases! Parempiricism could not ascend higher, common sense could not descend lower.

#### TREATMENT OF THE SYMPTOM.

*General indications; general remedies.  
Routine remedies.*

The impossibility of discovering sure remedies for vague names of diseases, induced now and then more conscientious physicians to distinguish diseases more accurately. Those that were evidently dissimilar were separated, the similarities of many of them were investigated, and those that were considered to be connected were united in classes, orders, and species, &c., according to the similarity of their exciting causes, the functions that were deranged, the identity of their seat in the body, the peculiar tone of the fibres, and some common symptoms.

By means of this historical view of the apparent relations and differences, they sought to make us better acquainted with the nature of the innumerable diseases,

\* If Brown could have the merit, though himself a practical physician, of having lifted for us the curtain which conceals the secret workings of the organism from our art, yet this merit is reduced to a nullity by that general, injurious and most erroneous maxim of his (*Elements of Medicine*, § xcii): "The cure of any disease of considerable violence, and scarce of any at all, is never to be entrusted to any one remedy; the use of several remedies is preferable to that of one"—a precept that would alone prove his incapacity as a teacher of medicine. Nothing is less known or less investigated in nature than the powers of medicinal substances, *our weapons!* How can we learn them otherwise than by using them singly? Or is a single drug, if it be the proper one, less powerful to remove a single disease than a mixture of several that counteract each other's action?

and to persuade us that then we knew enough about them to enable us to cure them after that. Some resorted to generalising (the ordinary pathologists,) others to subdividing (the nosologists.)

But this labor (and that at the hands of men like Rudolph Augustin Vogel or Wichmann) was only successful in so far as it had reference to the description of the course of some epidemic diseases that frequently recurred in pretty well defined characters, and to the description of endemic diseases of a fixed stamp, and of diseases whose cause was evident (the symptoms produced by some poisons—lead, charcoal vapor—or infection by some miasms that never altered their character much—syphilis, itch.) Still in all these, indescribable varieties occur, which often alter the whole affair.

(For as all other diseases, whatever be their outward resemblance—for example, the dropsies and tumors, the chronic skin diseases and ulcers, the abnormal fluxes of blood and mucus, the infinite varieties of pains, the hectic fevers, the spasms, the so-called nervous affections, &c.—present such innumerable differences among themselves in their other symptoms, that every single case of disease must as a general rule be regarded as quite distinct from all the rest, as a *peculiar individuality*, it is evident that any general descriptions of them in entire classes must not only be superfluous but must lead to error.)

However, I forbear at present from attempting to estimate their services to our art, and shall only observe that the pathological and nosological investigators who possessed this kind of historical knowledge were not much happier\* in their treatment than those who treated mere names of diseases.

These in particular were the persons who (in combination with the therapeutists by profession), as a forlorn hope, invented the make-shift of decyphering the appropriate remedy from the description of the disease, of devising for diseases arranged in ranks and orders some general plan of treatment that should be suitable

for every one of them, that is to say, the method of treatment according to general indications, the method of treatment by means of so-called *general remedies*. “The indications of impurities in the alimentary canal demand evacuations upwards and downwards, heat demands cooling medicines, fluxes demand astringents, putridity antisceptics, pains sedatives, weakness tonics, spasms anti-spasmodics, constipation purgatives, dysuria diuretics, a dry skin diaphoretics.” Under the guidance of the frequently misunderstood results of experience the evacuants, the cooling remedies, the astringents, the antisceptics, the sedatives, the tonics, the antispasmodics, the purgatives, the diuretics, and the dia-phoretics were devised, and here was at once a complete system of therapeutics, for the over-completeness of which some other classes of remedies were invented for symptoms that were often but the offspring of fancy, such as incisives, solvents, diluents, &c.

(To be continued.)

#### THE

### Relations of Homœopathy to Chemistry.

#### An Inaugural Address,

*Delivered before the Hahnemann Academy of Medicine, January 14, 1852. By JOSEPH T. CURTIS, M.D.*

(Published by order of the Academy.)

The address to which the above is the title, is to us a puzzle. It consists of twenty pages, and only a little more than seven of these are devoted to the subject indicated by the title. Dr. C. says: “I wish to be distinctly understood as not proposing to supplant vital or dynamic by chemical medicine.” Now, this is plain enough; but he says further, “Chemical medicine is inadequate to meet functional changes; on the other side, dynamic remedies will never *per se* feed the starved organs, nor render superfluous the banishment of some constituent, prone to accumulate.” In our opinion there is a false assumption in this, which is, that chemical laws govern assimilation. We prefer the term laws to the word medicine, for “chemical medicine” is a mere technicality of an unsettled meaning in this day. In fact the only meaning it has is that of the chemical physicians of past ages, whose

\* Even the model of graphic description, even the most natural picture of the very constantest of all diseases, those of an endemic character, never guides us to the remedy;—the most accurate amount of pellagra, yaws, sibbens, pian, ringworm, tsömör, water-kuik, plica polonica, &c., throws no light on the specific remedy that is capable of removing each of these maladies quickly, easily, and radically; this remains still concealed from our eyes in the bosom of nature. What hint, then, could be derived for the appropriate remedy from the general description of those diseases whose character was less constant, which presented more varieties among each other, and were more vague?

leading doctrine was, "that the operations of the living body are all guided by chemical actions." The true doctrine, or that which is almost universally received at the present day is, that the operations of the living body are all guided by vital actions, not chemical; and these actions are not identical, nor do they resemble each other. For this reason we assert that Dr. C. has a false assumption for the basis of his doctrine.

Chemistry never did nor never can teach the effects of substances in the living body. It teaches, for example, the composition of water, but it does not teach that water quenches thirst. It teaches the elements which form a beef-steak, but by that knowledge alone we should not know that the steak is suitable food, and so of all articles of diet. The same mode of reasoning will apply with equal force to remedial agents.

But lest we should be accused of injustice towards the author of the address, we quote almost all that is said on the subject, and our readers can judge whether our brief criticism is just or otherwise:—

To determine the relations of medicine to food, the cardinal point of attention, let us examine the various elementary substances in nature, in order to ascertain their relation to the animal economy. We observe at the very outset, one fundamental difference existing among them, in virtue of which they are divisible into two classes. The first of these embraces those bodies which are either essential to, or enter into the composition of the animal frame; the second includes those which are foreign to the organism, and the presence of which, even in comparatively minute quantities, disturbs the equilibrium of the functions, and induces disease. The former of these, then, comprises constituent or alimentary bodies which, in proper combination, are homogeneous to the animal tissues; the latter a list of elements which are incapable, under all existing circumstances, of healthful assimilation, and hence, in regard to these tissues, are intrinsically heterogeneous or poisonous. To the constituents belong, as the chemist demonstrates, carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen, sulphur, phosphorus, chlorine, fluorine, magnesium, calcium, sodium, potassium, iron, silicon, &c. The non-constituent or foreign embraces arsenic, gold, silver, platina, tin, cass zinc, mercury, antimony, nickel, bismuth and many others.

A little reflection will now satisfy us that the above difference is fraught with important con-

sequences to the pathologist and physician. To prosecute the thought, let us take iron and arsenic as examples. Iron is an indispensable element to blood and muscle, and is found in smaller quantities in other living matters; *some* iron, then, is normal or healthy, but neither the solids nor fluids, when sound, contain the least appreciable particle of arsenic. More recent chemical research has, indeed, occasionally pointed out the existence in the animal tissues, of lead, copper, and other substances, not always recognised as constituent bodies, but nearer examination justifies the conclusion that several such are casual or extraneous, rather than constant, while the total absence of all physical proof of the presence of many other elements found in nature, stamps the above as a legitimate scientific distinction. To return, iron, then, is one of the animal elements, and as such, subject to excess and deficiency; but, is this the case with arsenic? The answer is no; the least portion of it, in a healthy living organ, is hostile. In this aspect, therefore, iron is dietetic, an orderly and constant supply of it being necessary to the economy; arsenic, on the other hand, is potential, dynamic or alterative, its use being not for nourishment, but for exerting a modifying power over the morbid vital processes, until such time as, these being corrected, it may be eliminated from the organism. The function in medicine of arsenic, and of the class to which it belongs, may be aptly compared to that denominated *catalytic*, in the language of chemistry, as will be readily understood by the scientific student. The conversion of starch, by boiling it with dilute sulphuric acid, into several kindred bodies, among which are gum and grape sugar, furnishes one of the most interesting examples of this phenomenon. In this result the acid undergoes no change, its simple presence being adequate to insure the transformation of starch into sugar. The decomposition of oxygenated water, by the contact of platinum and silver, is a still purer catalytic result. The effects of the acid and the silver, under these circumstances, taking place without combination or loss of the agents, illustrate what is termed dynamic action.

The criticism just rendered on iron is, of course, equally applicable to every nutrient, and again the relations of arsenic hold uniformly good of all dynamic or catalytic elements. I have already remarked that these nutritive substances, in due proportions, compose the animal fabric; when they fall beneath the normal or regular standard, this deficiency just as certainly entails disorder as their excess. The one state, in fact, is starvation, the other repletion. Without lime, for example, the secretion of milk fails, the bones and teeth grow soft, or are arrested in their development; without soda, no bile can be formed; without phosphorus and magnesia, the nervous tissues lose their energy, and the impaired condition of the brain is evinced by loss of memory, frightful headaches and impending pa-

ralysis; ghastly paleness, prostration, faintings and coldness, attend the lack of carbon; deprived of sulphur, the hair would rapidly cease to grow, and the absence of iron is marked by lividity, disordered digestion, passive dropsy, and other symptoms of an anaemic or chlorotic character.

The food we receive daily furnishes the natural source of these alimentary substances, and serves, during health, to repair the waste of these matters through the skin, kidneys, and other excretaries consequent upon the voluntary and vegetative functions of the economy. Hence the equilibrium is preserved. Inordinate use of particular organs induces a disproportionate consumption of their substance, and hence of the elements from which this substance is formed. Excesses in watching, thought and muscular effort, for example, by overtaxing the brain and muscular fibre, render these tissues rapidly effete, and, therefore, cause an exaggerated demand for their peculiar pabulum, as phosphorus and iron. It is easy thus to perceive how the highly artificial or voluntary life, so distinctive of man, breaks the vegetative balance and produces impoverishment of nutrition. On the contrary, inefficiency of the excretory organs, bad medication and vicious feeding lead equally, sooner or later, to a surplus of one or more vital constituents.

These remarks suffice briefly to illustrate the subject and to prepare us for the next step in the investigation, which is evidently to determine their practical bearing on the elaboration of the *materia medica*, and consequently, their influence in the treatment of the sick. If the views I have taken be correct, it is plainly erroneous to suppose that the cure of a malady always requires positive treatment, that is to say, *something* to be administered in the way of medicine. Cases are presumable, nay, demonstrable, in which the main duty devolving on the rational physician should be the exclusion of some specific organic element ascertained to preponderate already in the organism.

The only method known to the vitalist of determining the action on the human body, of various substances, is watching and noting the changes which ensue on administering them to the healthy subject. Such was the course pursued by the modern master, and such are the results submitted to the world in his *Pure Materia Medica*. Among the substances there tried, we find many of the nutrient class, viz.: ammonia, lime, magnesia, soda, phosphorus, silex, carbon, potash, sulphur, iron, &c. It is in place here, however, to observe, that he contemplated only a purely positive pathogenesis, the nature of his experiments having been such as to ensure a class of symptoms dependent on an excess of the substance under trial. Hahnemann's records of dietetic agents are, indeed, particularly remarkable for symptom-groups of an apparently antagonistic character. These are classified by him as primary and secondary effects; the first, according to his opinion, being the product of the remedy,

the other the re-action of the constitution. These secondary groups may represent, then, a comparative, but by no means an absolute or abnormal deficiency of vital elements. I have already, however, said sufficient to show that positive pathogenesis can never exhibit the indications for the employment of special nutritive elements. To assert the contrary would, in fact, be to maintain that surplus and lack of these elements are betrayed by precisely the same phenomena. Such an assumption is contrary to reason and experience. We derive, hence, the important practical conclusion, that it behoves us to enter upon a new order of drug-provings, which shall embrace the negative pathogenesis of all the alimentary substances. These trials will reveal the individual changes of the organism under the privation of particular elements, and thus pave the way to a system of accurate special dietetics. Studied in this light, the positive symptoms of dietetic bodies would, in all cases, point out, not their homœopathicity, but their identity or isopathic quality in diseases they resemble. This position is of the gravest import, and, if not erroneously founded, shows that the positive results of organic elements, now exhibited in our *Materia Medica*, are to be regarded as contra-indications of their use in disease. I should avoid iron, for example, because the parallelism between its positive effects and my ailment indicated its excess in my constitution, or I should choose silex, because the symptoms of its negative trials, corresponding with my own, showed an impoverishment of that particular constituent. Thus, abstinence from acids is found proper in softening of the bones, and I have known inveterate catarrhs permanently ameliorated by the abandonment of common salt, (chloride of sodium.) Yet, apart from the distinctions I have just drawn, phosphoric acid would seem homœopathic to bone-softening, and no remedies in our service appear more appropriate in pulmonary catarrhs than the different forms of soda.

The prosecution of negative or privative trials would obviously present far greater difficulties than have been encountered in drug-provings hitherto. Each experiment of this kind must be grounded upon the systematic exclusion, from the diet, of the article on trial. It might, in all probability, be impossible totally to eliminate it; perhaps a reduction of it to the minimum would be sufficient, especially as these researches would require to be tested and perfected by the co-operation of the physiological chemist. Lime provings would admit, for instance, of the use of potatoes, peas, and perhaps occasionally of oat-meal and wheat; it is much more abundant, however, in rye and barley, whence preparations from these would weaken the result. Again, animal muscle, milk, cheese, and shell-fish, abound in lime, and, therefore, would be totally inadmissible. The nutritious grains, generally, contain a great deal of silex, hence, the use of unbolted meal would spoil the negative pathogenesis of this sub-

stance. In the composition of rye, we find about twenty-one times as much oxide of iron as in potatoes; the starvation trials of iron would, consequently, make the former inadmissible. The yolks of eggs, also, are so rich in iron that their continued use as diet might elicit the symptoms of a surplus of this metal.

It is not my purpose, however, to extend here the details of this subject, but only to expose its principles, extent and connection with chemical and dynamic medicine.

There remains yet to be considered one important feature of the action on the constitution of assimilable substances. I mean their behavior in states of combination. The effects of vegetable and mineral acids, compound bases and plants, generally present great varieties, and are often very different from what, judging from their analyses, we have been led to conjecture. Carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, and oxygen, so congenial to human want in the form of egg-white and cheese, combine, either all or in part, in different proportions, and form the palsying strychnine, or the still deadlier prussic acid. Oxalic and nitric acids, and the wide range of vegetable alkaloids, are examples of this truth. Of these articles, the homœopathic *Materia Medica* embraces a large number; the symptoms of many of them are minute and extensive, and we prescribe them daily with greater or less success. Such results appear, at first sight, to controvert the views I have offered, and to demonstrate no essential distinction to exist between the laws of pure food-elements and medicinal bodies. This doubt will cease to embarrass us, if we consider that worn-out tissues, which obviously consist of alimentary elements, could never be extruded from the system, were not certain combinations of these elements possible, inharmonic to, and incompatible with the healthy structures—in other words, if carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen and oxygen, were under all circumstances capable of appropriation, it is plain enough that the economy would never part with them at all. Hence, it is evident that the presence of excretory matters, in the constitution, must necessarily awaken reactions or morbid manifestations, and in-so-far, simulate the general results observed from the presence of strictly foreign elements.

This elucidation of the apparent discrepancy alluded to above, if not sufficiently full for future purposes, seems, nevertheless, satisfactory, and gives a clue for unravelling this intricate and interesting matter. Minute quantities of nitric, oxalic, and I believe, of prussic acid, are digestible, that is to say, capable of resolution by the organism into their constituent elements, and thence of appropriation, according to the normal laws of the economy; in larger quantities, however, the vital powers proving insufficient to rend or decompose them, they retain their proper organic combinations unbroken, and, hence, act as dynamic or chemical integers. This view is strengthened by the

fact that, in certain morbid states, cyanogen and oxalic and nitric acids pass the kidneys, thus proving the cognate vital relations of these and similar bodies to uric acid and urea, which are the limits of the vital disintegrating power. The laws of vegetable remedies appear identically the same, and we find that heat, moisture and exposure, so far break up their constitutions as to prevent them from exerting a unitary action. Many poisonous plants are rendered edible by culinary processes. This explanation will perhaps serve also to show why we are not unfrequently disappointed in the operation of composite constituent remedies, their dynamic effect being lost if they undergo assimilation.

Here we have a remarkable combination of facts and theories, of false assumptions, and illogical reasonings, which caused us to say at the beginning of this notice, that the address is to us a puzzle. We hope our readers will be better able than ourself to perceive the pertinency of Dr. C.'s suggestions to a purer homœopathic practice. For the life of us, we cannot perceive it. It is beyond a doubt the old "chemical medicine" attempted to be revived, although the author intimates that it is not so. We have not the room nor the inclination to enter upon an analysis of the above quotation. Therefore we present another test of the doctrine of the address.

There are two things established in the art of healing: 1st, The law of cure, *similia similibus curantur*. 2d. The doses of drugs, to be curative, must be small and attenuated. As one law of cure is all that is necessary, so far as we know, and as nature does not multiply her laws without reason, and only one law of cure being established, and no other one known, we are warranted in assuming that there is but one, and therefore every mode of medical treatment inconsistent with the established law, either in the selection of the drug for the disease, or the dose, must be false. Large doses of crude or attenuated drugs do not act curatively; this is admitted virtually even by Dr. Curtis, who says that *arsenic* in "the least portion of it, in a healthy living organ, is hostile." The curative property of drugs is only known by minute or attenuated quantities, and this fact renders the homœopathic *Materia Medica* indispensable in the healing art.

Chemistry can teach the elemental composition of the structure of our bodies; and, as no doubt there is in one individual more iron, for example, than in another, yet it does not follow that there is an excess in the one and a deficiency in the other. Dr. C. illogically assumes that it does. To make his reasoning sound on this branch of his subject, he should have fixed a standard by which we might know how much iron, sulphur, phosphorus, magnesium, &c., each person must have in the fluids and solids of his body to be in health. The appearances he describes as indicative of excess or deficiency of these elements may be true for aught we know, yet it is not certain, and therefore cannot be relied on in practice. But assume that the symptoms described by Dr. C. exist, and allow the cause to be deficiency of soda and magnesia, would feeding the patient on soda and magnesia cure him? We answer it would not! But might not food which has soda and magnesia naturally combined with it, cure the patient? We cannot say but it might essentially aid in the cure, provided such food is agreeable to the patient, he being prompted to it by his appetite, and not otherwise.

But under such circumstances, where is Dr. C.'s chemical doctrine? It has nothing to do with it.

A person can never be nourished by food that is offensive to him. Nor can lime be increased in the solids and fluids of the living body by quarts of lime water. A chemical effect may be produced in the stomach by substances coming directly in communication, but the chemical laws go no further; they accomplish their work in a few minutes, and cease.

We look upon the address of Dr. C. as an attempt to show cause why certain practitioners who take rank in the homœopathic school, may consistently employ large doses of drugs, and even depart from the law of cure on the ground of chemical indications by a supposed deficiency of iron, soda, magnesia, sulphur, &c. in the living body.

## HOMOEOPATHY AND ITS OPPONENTS.

(Continued from page 158.)

THE end may sometimes justify the means, or, at all events, excuse a resort to many an equivocal proceeding. As a part of his philosophy, and from a very natural fear that if the *truth* were told, it would be fatal to his "illustrations," Dr. Blatchford has very complaisantly resorted to fiction in the place of fact; his end was to kill Homœopathy—the means did not trouble him much, a lie was as good as truth with those who knew no better. Whether ignorance or villainy prompt the effort to utter a falsehood, may be of some value in estimating the character of a writer who would enlighten the masses on a subject he cordially hates, and so may Dr. Blatchford's merits be tested by what he has himself said.

It is asserted by Hahnemann in his 275th aphorism, that "the appropriation of a medicine to any given case of disease, does not depend solely upon the circumstance of its being perfectly homœopathic, but also upon the minute quantity of the dose in which it is administered." If *too strong* a dose be given, injury follows inevitably, though the medicine be salutary in its nature; "because, in virtue of its homœopathic character, the remedy acts precisely on those parts of the organism which have already been most exposed to the attacks of the natural disease." There hence follows, as we are told in the 276th aphorism, a medicinal "aggravation," an "artificial malady, which is very analogous to the natural one. It is true the patient no longer suffers from the primitive malady which has been homœopathically destroyed, but he suffers so much more from the medicinal one, which was much too powerful, and from unnecessary debility." Again—"for this very reason," says Hahnemann, "and because a remedy administered in a dose sufficiently small is so much more efficacious, nay, almost wonderfully so, in proportion as it has been homœopathically selected, in the same manner, *a medicine*

*whose peculiar symptoms correspond perfectly with those of the disease, ought to be salutary in proportion as the dose approaches nearer to the appropriate minuteness to which it should be reduced to effect a gentle cure."*

A fool might misunderstand this language, a knave would *purposely* misrepresent it, and where both qualities of the mind are exercised in suiting but a *small* portion of our quotations to its objects, there is no scruple in the execution of the dirty work. Dr. B. therefore sets out to prove, by quoting *only* the italicised portion of our extracts, that to a certain extent, and under certain circumstances, the more you reduce the dose of a medicine, the more you increase its power, or the nearer you approach its "highest potency." He therefore says of Hahnemann, that "rather than relinquish his favorite law, (*similia similibus curantur*,) rather than commit this, his darling offspring, to the tomb of oblivion, the astonishing, the mighty discovery was made, that infinitesimal doses of medicine can combat disease in all its various forms, with a power which increases as it diminishes." *Credat Judæus Appella!* Tell it not in Troy—publish it not in the great city of New-York, that there lives so great an ass as to make such a *deliberate* assertion, and charge the same upon the immortal German as a "mighty discovery." No! rather let us at once frankly say, that it is the scheme of a cunning knave, who would profit by the deception. Nowhere in the "*Organon*," nor in any homœopathic book, is the statement put forth as Dr. Blatchford has it, and yet this *gentleman* says to his hearers, "If you have any doubts, the following extracts will remove them all." Doubts about what? Why, that the power of a medicine *increases* as you *diminish* the quantity; in other words, the *higher* potencies are more powerful than the *lower* ones.

The first extract is a small and *altered* portion of the note to the 253d aphorism, which Dr. B. gives thus: "The dose must be attenuated to the proper degree—that is

to say, as much as possible." The *genuine* extract reads—"But the signs of amendment furnished by the mind and temper of the patient are never visible, (shortly after he has taken the remedy,) but where the dose *has been* attenuated to the proper degree, &c. A dose stronger than necessary (even of the most homœopathic remedy) acts with too great violence, and plunges the moral and intellectual faculties into such disorder, that it is impossible to discover quickly any amendment that takes place." What proof is there here of anything more than this, that infinitesimal doses of medicinal substances are really *curative* in proportion to that diminution of quantity, which shall merely produce an almost insensible aggravation of the disease? Dr. B. would have his dupes believe that the 30th attenuation of any medicine was asserted to be more *powerful* than the first, or that a drop of any of the strong tinctures was *less potent* than the same quantity in an ounce of water. The *power* is with the greater quantity, but it is not always a *power for good*, as homœopathic physicians well know. In its *curative* effect, a high dilution may be far more *powerful* than a low one; therefore, the precise dose necessary in any case will merely destroy the diseased action to which it is opposed. "How insignificant and ridiculous is mere theoretic incredulity when opposed to the infallible evidence of facts."

In his 280th aphorism, Hahnemann uses the following language: "It is of little import whether the attenuation goes so far as to appear almost impossible to ordinary physicians whose minds feed on no other ideas but what are gross and material. *All their arguments and vain assertions will be of little avail, when opposed to the dictates of unerring experience.*" Dr. Blatchford quotes a portion of this language, but has taken care to *omit* the sentence we have italicised, and to *add a portion* of the note at the bottom of the page. Hahnemann says in this note, that any substance may be infinitesimally divided, yet each portion shall retain a "*small share*" of the original material. However *diminu-*

tive the particles may be, they still are *something*, and cannot be reduced to nothing. Immense powers exist which have no weight, and these are consequently lighter than the medicinal contents of the smallest conceivable homœopathic doses. Can you *weigh* those harsh words which shall excite a bilious fever, or the sad intelligence of a son's death, which shall end the life of a mother? Would you desire proof that even the imponderable bodies can produce *violent* effects on man? Then put your hand for fifteen minutes upon a magnet capable of sustaining an hundred pounds, and the pain you shall feel will teach you a lesson not soon forgotten.

But this *extreme or infinite divisibility* of matter appears to be a severe tax on Dr. Blatchford's erudity. We wish we could with truth say or think that he has read or studied as a professional man should who undertakes to talk and write with authority and judgment. If he had done so, the *discovery* might have been made by him, "that a grain of indigo may be divided into thirty-eight *billions* of *visible* parts; and when we consider that a human being could not count a single billion, working night and day, in a shorter period than *thirty thousand years*, we may form a faint conception of the number of particles in a grain of matter." (Muncke, *Handbuch der Naturlehre*, Heidelberg, 1829.) Is the mind not startled at this, although the estimate is only of the *visible* particles in a solitary grain? Has Dr. Blatchford read the *Essay of Ehrenberg*, in Taylor's *Scientific Memoirs*? Has he ever been able to form any estimate of the degree of minuteness of the particles of which the microscope can take cognisance? There is much, we fear, for Dr. Blatchford to learn ere he finds out the folly of experience flanked by prejudice, particularly when opposed to such as is founded on innumerable facts.\*

In the introduction to the *Organon*, the word *dynamic* frequently occurs. It is derived from *δύναμις* force or power, par-

ticularly that which is termed vital. The dynamic school are those physiologists who believe that all vital phenomena result from the operation of an immaterial force or power, acting independently of all external causes. They also believe that medicinal agents possess a dynamic power. Dr. Blatchford says it is a "*senseless term*," and wonders "Hahnemann did not call his system the *dynamie* system of medicine, instead of the *homœopathic*." The term may appear "*senseless*" to some minds, but this will not in the least affect its propriety, nor does Dr. Blatchford seem to be at all aware of its adoption by *allopathic* writers, his own kith and kin. We give a little evidence from our opponents.

We may venture to hope that Dr. B. is knowing to the fact of *M. Guérard* having used *ammonia* with great success in *asthma*. In many cases of pulmonary emphysema the relief has been instantaneous. The remedy is thus applied: a small pencil of charcoal is dipped into pure liquid ammonia, and then instantly into a glass of water, after which it is immediately passed to the back of the throat, touching rapidly the velum, uvula, and oesophagus to a greater or less extent. The pencil must not be carried too deeply into the throat, nor allowed to remain too long in contact with the soft parts, especially the posterior wall of the pharynx, for the reaction is sometimes frightful, and menaces instant death. Now comes an important question: What is the *true principle of action* of the remedy? We should like to inquire of the united wisdom of the State Medical Society, how the ammonia acts in these cases, if not by virtue of its "*dynamic power?*" And the proof that its action is *dynamic*, is just this, that if *any* other irritating remedy, the actual cautery for instance, boiling alcohol, &c., be used, the disease is aggravated. What, then, is the *nature* of the dynamie action of the ammonia? It is purely *hyposthenie*, there is humoral evaevation (mucus, tears,) and subsequently, similar results to those produced by other hyposthenie agents.\*

\* See Law's Inquiry into the simple bodies of Chemistry—*Med. Gazette*, Dec. 6, 1850, p. 972.

\* *Annales de Therapeutique*, Nov. 1845.

Those who like Dr. Blatchford can only put forth their opposition to homœopathy in the shape of exaggerated and *false* statements, are ever ringing the changes about the *quantity* of alcohol and sugar it takes to prepare the dilutions and attenuations. The method of doing this is, however, so absurd, so very like the braying of an *extremely* small jackass, that we are tempted to pass it by as too ridiculous for notice. When the assertion is made, that it takes more than quintillions of tons of sugar to reduce a grain of charcoal or sulphur to the fortieth degree, the lie is so palpable and gross, so specially intended to deceive, that it carries its own refutation with it. The trick is mean enough, but not too mean to serve the purposes of those who practice it, the very men who talk and write so boldly of the exalted honor of the profession. Bah!

Nov. 1851.

KOPP.

(To be continued.)

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## ON TOOTHACHE.

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BY DR. VON BÖNNINGHAUSEN.

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*An Essay read by him, in 1835, before the Allopathic Medical Society of Münster.\**

I BELIEVE that this learned society, of which I have the honour to be a member, expects that the subject of my paper will bear some relation to homœopathy. In answer to this supposed expectation, I will endeavour, briefly, to prove how a medicine, producing a disease in a healthy subject, will relieve a like natural disease. To fix your attention on a suitable instance, I choose a complaint which, indeed, is not dangerous, but often, from the intensity of pain, reduces the patient almost to despair. This complaint, under ordinary treatment, can only be cured completely by the removal of the offending part; but for its relief the *Materia Medica* contains a great number of remedies, and it will never permanently disappear without the application of the specific remedy—I mean the *toothache*.

\* [Translated from the fifteenth volume of Archives, by Dr. Süss, to whom we tender our best thanks. It would redound much to our credit if we, in 1852, could show such available and comprehensive acquaintance with the *Materia Medica* as the veteran Bönnighausen showed himself master of in 1835.—ED.]

There are certainly not many in the civilised world who are not more or less affected by this complaint, and it is well known how little relief can be brought by the so-called rational medicine. In addition to the extraction of the bad tooth there are very few other remedies, and these are applicable only in some cases, and even in these the results are very uncertain. Therefore all the known house-remedies are at first applied, often to the great detriment of the health, and when they have been taken without relief, the patient goes to a dentist, to get relief by the extraction, though he knows that it is a tooth lost for his whole life, and experience has shown us that after such sort of relief the next tooth often becomes affected.

Homœopathy does not pretend to cure all the different kinds of toothache, either quickly or for ever, but it can give relief in the greatest number of cases, and acts in the same manner as in the cure of all other diseases. According to the principles of homœopathy, the toothache is merely a symptom of an internal uneasiness of the vital power, which never exists alone, but is followed by many other symptoms, though the latter are so few and obscure, that they are not remarked but by accurate observation.

The totality of the symptoms of a disease gives a perfect picture of the disease itself, and indicates the most useful remedy in accordance with the great principle "*similia similibus curantur*." As a painter cannot draw a perfect picture by the delineation of one feature, as the eyes, or nose, or mouth, so neither can the homœopathist cure a disease by looking only at one symptom. The great characteristic of a good homœopathic practitioner is to take together all the present symptoms, and then to analyse the most prominent of them. The difference, therefore, between allopathy and homœopathy is that, in the former, numbers of remedies are mixed together for a cure of disease, and in the latter only one remedy is employed, which meets the demands of the case, that is, of the symptoms present. It is therefore necessary that the homœopathist should know all the pathogenetic effects of the remedy he selects.

Homœopathy has many remedies which in the healthy state will produce toothache. As it is impossible to enumerate now all the different kinds of toothache, and their homœopathic treatment, I will only give a few examples how homœopathy acts in such cases. I choose for this purpose a peculiar kind of toothache, but still of

common occurrence, viz., *the throbbing pains in the teeth, the pulsative pains*, which are produced by thirty-five remedies, but for the relief of which kind of toothache I have used only sixteen, and with the best result.

I. After a cold, produced by exposure to an easterly wind, a fever with great congestion towards the head frequently takes place, together with a burning heat in the face, frequent and hard pulse, and great agitation of body and mind. To these symptoms may be added, violent throbbing toothache, chiefly on one side, and occupying the whole jaw, with redness of the cheek. In such cases *Aconite* is the only specific.

II. Another kind of throbbing pain in the teeth, produced also very often by cold, but without fever, will be cured by *Causticum*. It is almost always accompanied by painful sensibility, swelling and ready bleeding of the gums, with dragging pains in the muscles of the face, in the eyes and ears.

I was myself affected last winter for several days with this complaint, because I did not understand, from the absence of the other principal symptoms, which was the right remedy to select. After having employed, without relief, many remedies, I was cured in two hours by taking one dose of *Causticum*, and from that time I have not suffered from a similar toothache. The toothache to which *Causticum* is appropriated is always of a chronic nature, *Causticum* having a long medicinal action; but remedies whose action is limited to a short period will never affect this kind of toothache.

III. *Chamomilla* is very useful in throbbing toothache, affecting especially women and children. The kind of toothache which is relieved by this remedy is almost always insupportable at night, and increased by the warmth of the bed, and causing despair to the patient, who runs about, and keeps moaning; there is generally redness and swelling of one cheek; the hair is moist; there is great thirst, and swelling of the submaxillary glands.

Some years ago, I remember my wife was seized with violent toothache of the kind I have just described. As I was absent from home Dr. B., who attended at that time my suffering wife, gave her at first *Aconite*, in consequence of the feverish symptoms; as they were not diminished, on the next day he gave her *Pulsatilla*, which did not produce the slightest effect; the third day *Bryonia* was administered; but this remedy also gave no relief. Dr.

B., who now thought that homœopathy was insufficient, applied, on the fourth day, eighteen leeches, and gave a mixture, which produced for the first time a short relief; but after a quarter of an hour the same violent toothache returned, and became insupportable. The fifth day I returned, at four P. M., from my journey, and found my wife suffering from the intensest pain. After having inquired into what had been done for her, and having well examined her state, I gave her at once a dose of *Chamomilla*. At five o'clock the pain ceased and the swelling of the cheek disappeared.

IV. The kind of throbbing toothache cured by *China* is not of frequent occurrence.

I remember chiefly one case, which happened to me whilst travelling through the country. A young girl, well featured and pleasant to look at, had become, when I saw her again, pale and thin. She suffered from violent throbings in the teeth, increased chiefly after meals and at night, and were slightly relieved by strong pressure and biting on the teeth, while a slight touch rendered the pains insupportable. In the meantime she had continual diarrhoea, and profuse night-sweats; she was very weak and could scarcely walk about.

As she begged me to relieve her suffering, I gave her a small dose of *China*, and the next morning, when I set off, she told me, highly delighted, that she had had a very good night, had no toothache, and had been free from night-sweat; and when I called on her some months afterwards, I found her again nice-looking and handsome. A quite similar toothache can be produced by the abuse of *China*, as I have observed already twice, in young men who were in the habit of taking every morning *China-brandy*. It is clear in such a case *China* would not be applicable.

All the symptoms were cured, in one case, by *Arnica*, in another by *Pulsatilla*, two remedies which answered more the general symptoms than the throbings.

V. Persons who are accustomed to suffer very often from a throbbing pain in the teeth are, after the nature of the accompanying symptoms, almost always cured by *Aconite*, *Chamomilla*, *Ignatia*, *Nux*, or *Pulsatilla*. But there are also throbings in persons who never take coffee, and for which toothache the *Tincture of Coffea cruda* is the specific.

Last Christmas I called upon a friend's family, who lived strictly according to the rules of the homœopathic diet, and never took coffee. I found the housewife suffer-

ing from violent toothache ; the pain was throbbing, and the patient ran crying from one room to another, complaining of insupportable pain ; though she confessed that sometimes the pains were not so intense, yet they affected her very much. The account of her sufferings was interrupted by crying, and she behaved herself with a certain hastiness, like a person distracted, which last symptom struck me the more, as I knew her consistent and firm character when she was in health.

I gave her at once a small dose of *Coffea cruda* 6, and after two minutes the throbings disappeared, and the remaining sensibility of the part affected was taken off in five minutes afterwards by *Ignatia*. The whole evening now passed in the usual way, and during the week I stopped there nothing similar happened. Some days ago I saw her again, when she told me that she had not had any attack of toothache since.

**VI.** A remarkably quick-acting remedy for a kind of throbbing pain in the teeth is the north pole of the magnet.

This throbbing is almost always accompanied by burning, and has its seat in the lower jaw, followed by a hot and red cheek ; it becomes worse from warmth, and after meals. Generally there is a chilliness over the whole body ; great irritability ; trembling and quivering of the limbs. In spring and autumn this kind of toothache is very frequent. Its cure is soon accomplished, the patient touching with the forefinger the north pole of the magnet as long as the pain seems to be increased.

I cannot forbear mentioning an application of the magnet, which, however, was not followed by success, yet shows its strong effect.

A servant of mine came into my study one evening, and begged me to give him some relief for his toothache, which had pained him since four P. M., and was always increasing. The pain was throbbing, and was in the upper jaw. As all the symptoms, except the last one, indicated the north pole of the magnet, I applied it at once (power of magnet capable of lifting two oz.) ; but he had scarcely touched it with his finger, when he grasped his cheek with his other hand, and cried out, "Oh ! it springs downwards !" The pain was merely removed from the upper jaw to the lower one, but continued with the same intensity. It is certain that this metastasis was produced by the north pole, and cure could not be expected from it. I then allowed him to touch the south

pole, which, by experience, we know takes away the effect of the north pole. What I expected happened ; he had only just touched the south pole, when he cried out, "Oh ! it springs again upwards !" So my purpose was answered ; and shortly afterwards I gave him *Pulsatilla*, which cured him completely : that was no imagination.

**VII.** I do not know whether there is a syphilitic toothache of a throbbing character for which *Mercurius* would be the specific, because it has the power to produce in a healthy person all the chief symptoms of syphilis ; but there is a throbbing in the teeth, which comes on from abuse of *Mercury*, and is worse towards the evening, in bed, until midnight, and even through the whole night, and prevents the patient from sleeping. *Acidum nitricum* is generally the specific for this kind.

I attended, two months ago, a young man, who had some time before contracted gonorrhœa, and had applied for relief to a young physician, who had probably very little experience in such cases. This patient came into my room in the greatest despair ; talked at first only of his unfortunate position, without mentioning his complaint, and spoke of committing suicide. After having consoled and encouraged him, he told me his sufferings, and showed me his palate, which was corroded by chancres, his gums lacerated by ulcers, and covered with thick, swollen, yellow-colored crusts, and his tongue with ulcerous margins, with a sensation of the tongue falling off ; the dread of the loss of this organ, which he thought could not be avoided, gave him the greatest anxiety, and impelled him to think of suicide. The gonorrhœa had disappeared, but in its stead the above-mentioned symptoms occurred. I perceived at once that this was a case of mecurialism.

I therefore gave him at first a small dose of *Hepar. sulph.*, after which remedy the palate and gums looked quite different the next day, and the patient began again to enjoy his life. Two days afterwards the above mentioned kind of toothache came on, for which I ordered him *Acidum nitricum*, in a high dilution, and the fourth day the hitherto suffering patient called on me, comparatively cured. I saw him again several times, when he felt himself as well as ever, after I had cured in eight days, with one dose of *Petroleum*, the gonorrhœa, which had again made its appearance.

**VIII.** In only one case of throbbing in the teeth was *Platina* the specific remedy. The pain was like a pulsative digging

through the whole right jaw, increased especially towards the evening, and by rest, whilst the patient several times began involuntarily to cry out. At first *Pulsatilla* seemed to me indicated, but it did not answer.

The next day, when a friend of hers brought me the report of the case, I asked her more particularly for the accompanying symptoms, and I soon perceived why *Pulsatilla* had no effect. The throbbing was followed by a clammy numbness, which affected the whole suffering part. In the mean time the monthly period was too early and abundant, and in her mind had been lately observed a pride, with conceit, and contempt of all about her, which had never before been seen. Here every homœopathist would have administered, as I did, *Platina*, which cured in a few hours, not only the whole toothache, but ameliorated her spirits, and restored the catamenia to their former regularity.

IX. With a cure of throbings in the teeth by *Pulsatilla*, which frequently occurs, is connected a very pleasing recollection, which I will now relate.

About three years ago, when travelling, I arrived towards evening at an hotel, where I found some friends from the neighborhood assembled, and among them the landlord's doctor. Some minutes after my arrival, the eldest daughter of the family begged me to relieve her toothache, telling me that for more than a fortnight she had experienced an attack, which came on after sunset, and lasted till midnight; that nothing had been found to give permanent relief, only that by walking in the open air, or standing at an open window, the pain was somewhat mitigated. This statement was confirmed by the doctor. As it was not the proper place to question her minutely about her other complaints, I gave her from my own box one dose of *Pulsatilla* 30. The result exceeded my expectation; for before I could return the box to my pocket, she cried out, to the astonishment of the whole company, "The pain is all gone." The young physician, who had but lately taken his degree, surprised by this fact, said that this cure, if it should last, would be most remarkable.

I then reasoned backwards: where *Pulsatilla* acted so quickly, there must be also its characteristic symptoms; and replied to him, if the patient followed only a week the rules for the homœopathic diet, she would not only lose the toothache for good, but be cured of any other complaints she might have. The young *Aesculapius* was quite puzzled at this, and asked what complaints.

I told him now some characteristic symptoms of this remedy, viz.: the prevalent shivering, great thirst, low spirits, insupportable heat, want of sleep before midnight, want of appetite, and dislike to fat food, etc. He then pretended I had ascertained all these particulars before, and when it was proved that I had just arrived, and had not previously examined the patient, he exclaimed, in some displeasure, that her relatives agreed with me out of courtesy.

I replied that I would tell him something more in private, and he should afterwards ask if it was true. On his assenting, I told him that the patient was also suffering from mucous diarrhoea; that her monthly period appeared too late, at intervals of five weeks, and were only of a few days' duration, with pain in the back and cramps in the abdomen. He then went to her, and pretended I had told him that she suffered from constipation, and that the catamenia were too early and abundant; to which she replied that in these respects I was mistaken, for she complained just of the contrary, and all that she answered to his inquiries agreed exactly with what I had before told him. Some months afterwards, when I saw this young lady again, she joyfully thanked me for having cured her of all her complaints. Whether this young physician afterwards studied Homœopathy I do not know, but I doubt it, as I have never heard of him since.

X. To the more rarely-employed remedies against the throbbing in the teeth belongs *Sabina*. Several cases occurred to me in which it was the only specific. This kind of toothache appeared also towards the evening and in the night, especially when the patient was warm in bed, and after meals, and with a sensation as if the tooth would burst, followed by a throbbing in all the vessels, frequent empty retching, and especially in females; abundant discharge of light-colored blood, even not at the time of the catamenia. In one case, a pain like that of gout in the right toe was taken off by an external remedy, and afterwards this kind of toothache appeared, which by one dose of *Sabina* was quickly cured, and neither the toothache nor the pain in the toe ever returned, precisely as I had foretold, the pain in the toe as well as the toothache being covered by *Sabina*.

XI. A malady of more frequent occurrence is a chronic throbbing in the teeth, with shooting pain, for which *Sepia* (not *ossa* but *succus sepiæ*) is the only specific.

This kind of toothache occurs generally in persons of a yellowish complexion, and extends to the ears, down the arms to the fingers, with a tingling in the latter, and is very often accompanied by difficulty in breathing, swelling of the cheeks, cough, and swelling of the submaxillary glands. This remedy is particularly indicated in throbbings affecting pregnant women. The patient will soon get relief from even the smallest dose.

XII. Nearly connected with this *Sepia* toothache, both by sensation and the other symptoms, is the throbbing cured by *Silicea*, but the latter is known by the swelling of the lower jaw and its periosteum, instead of the glands. The pains are more in the bone of the jaw than in the tooth itself, and the patient cannot sleep, on account of general heat. Connected with this is usually an unhealthy skin, which festers on the slightest injury. I myself was complaining some months ago of such a toothache, accompanied by a swelling of the lower jawbone to the size of a walnut. As soon as I perceived it, I took one small dose of *Silicea*, on which the pain immediately ceased, and the swelling of the bone the next morning had disappeared.

XIII. One of the most efficacious remedies against throbbing in the teeth is *Spigelia*. Where this remedy is the specific, a kind of prosopalgia is always found, with a stirring, griping, and burning pain in the zygomatic bone, accompanied by paleness and swelling of the face, with a yellowish areola round the lower eyelid. Besides this, the patient suffers generally from an aching pain in the eyes; violent beating of the heart, often with a sensation in the chest like the purring of a cat; frequent desire to urinate, with abundant secretion of urine; shivering, with quietude. Last year I cured, by a single and very small dose of this remedy, a robust woman, who was affected with the above-mentioned symptoms, among which the toothache and the prosopalgia were the most prominent; both of which symptoms, and especially the latter, had for some years returned twice every week, and were almost insupportable. Neither of them has recurred since I gave her the dose of *Spigelia*.

XIV. A more frequent kind of throbbing is that for which *Hyoscyamus* is the specific. It appears generally in the morning, and is almost always caused by a cold. There is throbbing in the tooth itself whilst in the gums a tearing sensation prevails, and in masticating, the tooth

seems loose, as if it would fall out. There is always a congestion of blood towards the head, with great heat all over the body. In violent attacks there is a sense of strangulation, with difficulty of deglutition, and cramps, with a sense of mental fatigue. One small dose of *Hyoscyamus* will cure this complaint in a very short time. Two years ago, when travelling, I cured, with this remedy, a young lady, who had become very ill on account of jealousy and rage about her former lover, by whom she had been forsaken. She complained of throbbing in the teeth, especially after midnight; she had fever, with great redness of face, and long fits of delirium, in which she tried to run away, so that it was necessary to watch her. The first dose of *Hyoscyamus* took away the toothache and delirium; the second dose, which I left for her, to be taken a week after the first, cured her of all the other complaints.

XV. *Sulphur* is also a very good remedy for throbbing in the teeth, especially when eruptions of the skin have been suppressed by any kind of ointment. The gums are almost always swollen, and throb like the tooth itself. There is connected with this a great irritability of the crown of the tooth, congestion of blood to the head, and pulsative headache; towards the evening red inflamed eyes and nose; shooting in the ears, frequent but insufficient desire to go to stool, constipation, and shivering. But it happens often that all these symptoms are caused by abuse of *Sulphur*, and in such a case *Sulphur* would aggravate all the symptoms.

XVI. Lastly I will mention *Veratrum*, a remedy very seldom indicated in throbbing in the teeth. It is useful in cases accompanied by swelling of the face, cold perspiration on the forehead, sickness, and vomiting of bile; a bruised sensation in the limbs, great prostration of strength almost to fainting, and coldness of the whole body, with internal heat, and great desire for cold drinks. All these symptoms were completely cured by *Veratrum*.

As this brief exposition of the different kinds of throbbing in the teeth has already given a great variety, it is easy to be understood how much this variety, together with the difficulty of determining the proper medicine, must increase, when other kinds of toothache, pressing, burning, shooting, cutting, boring, etc., are added, which embrace a far larger circle of remedies. Hence may be drawn two conclusions:—

First. That there is no reason for pre-

tending that Homœopathy requires no study, and that to spell through a mass of symptoms, in order to select the appointed remedy, is a mere pastime, unworthy a man of intelligence.

Second. That it is never the fault of the principle of Homœopathy, when the remedy, erroneously selected, does not answer. "That many remarkable facts have been collected," says Professor Eshmeyer, of Tübingen, in his pamphlet, "The Principles of Allopathy and Homœopathy Compared," "is beyond all doubt; but notwithstanding that the science is in its infancy, and the reasonable and intelligent man cannot and will not expect from it what he is entitled to demand from a doctrine that has borne the examination of centuries, Homœopathy not only stands the test of a strict scientific examination, but presents us with several new principles, which introduce us to a higher physiology and pathology. *Let us therefore acknowledge what it is able to do.*" With these words, "*Let us therefore acknowledge what it is able to do,*" I finish my short and too imperfect paper, with the cheerful acknowledgment of the noble and worthy conduct of all those members who, though not yet favorable to the new doctrine, in harmony with the words of that philosopher, *acknowledge what Homœopathy can do*, until the truth or error of the doctrine is more clearly shown.—*Hom. Times.*

The Anniversary of the New-York Academy of Medicine has not taken place this year, nor has the "Medical Times," its organ, we believe, given the reason why this annual gathering of the "fellows" has not transpired. There is trouble among the brethren, we understand. The Academy is a failure. It was got up to put down Homœopathy, but Homœopathy won't be put down. Therefore the Academy Gentlemen are trying to put down one another.

A petition numerously signed has been sent to the Legislature of New-York State, praying for an act to legalise anatomical studies. It is proper there should be such a law; and we are surprised that the subject has not been brought before the Legislature years ago, and from year to year. We think the friends of this measure are so numerous that the bill will pass, and great relief be afforded thereby to our medical colleges.

#### NOTICE.

This is the last number but one of the Sixth Volume of this Journal. We have found the cash system to work well both for our subscribers and for ourselves. We shall continue it. Therefore those who desire to receive the "American Journal of Homœopathy" for the ensuing year, which commences on the first of May next, will please remit to the Editor one dollar. This should be done at once, that we may be able to form an estimate of the number of copies which may be required to commence the seventh volume with.

*An Examination of the Evidence in Regard to Infinitesimal Doses.* By Wm. W. RODMAN, A.M., M. D., of Waterbury, Ct.

A pamphlet of 99 pages, with the above title, has been published by William Patton, of Waterbury, Ct.—Price 37½ cents.

It was our purpose to furnish our readers with extracts from this able production, but we are so well pleased with it as a whole, that we fear we should do injustice to the author by such a proceeding. Therefore we recommend physicians and others to procure the work entire from the publisher.

Dr. Rodman is a clear headed logical reasoner, which has enabled him to treat the subject of infinitesimal doses of medicine with convincing force. It is mainly such men our school may look to for a perpetuity of the pure doctrines of Homœopathy.

Dr. Markoe has been appointed surgeon to the New-York Hospital in the place of the late Dr. J. Kearney Rodgers. We understand there were a large number of applicants, and among them was our old friend Dr. J. R. Wood, who came just near enough being elected to miss it. We regret this, for Dr. W. is a good surgeon, and we think has claims on account of his senior professional standing, and his violent persevering opposition to Homœopathy, far beyond the successful candidate.

We are not of those who have full confidence in the Homœopathy of Professor Henderson, of the Edinburgh University; but the strong opposition to him from his colleagues in the university and elsewhere will finally, we think, make a pure homœopathist of him.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I am not a practitioner, but I am infinitely more interested in the contest between allopaths and homœopaths than if I were one of the belligerents; *I am one of those practised upon*, "think of that, Master Brooke." When I am ill I send for a physician and I am desirous of seeing a *fair stand-up fight* in argument, in which no such foul blows as "rogue," "liar," "impostor," "knave," "conscience seared with guilt," "infamous," and several others, are to be allowed, for they are worthy only of a "*rough and tumble*." The allopath has thrown his castor (I do not mean oil) into the ring, and with a good deal of bounce, seems confident of flooring his juvenile antagonist; his temper, however, seems to be none of the best, and the loss of that is apt to lose a man the battle, and I cannot help thinking that the odds are at present greatly in favour of the homœopath.

I will, however, drop the figurative, and ask seriously whether I am to be subjected to a tyranny, worthy only of the Pope and his priesthood? Am I to be forced into submission to that practice which has been described as "*full of errors, and abounding in mischief*," by some of its most scientific members? Am I to be denied the right of private judgment, founded upon experience of facts and results, upon my own sufferings; it is as bad as the shoemaker, who never will allow that the shoe he has made for you pinches, as if he, knowledgeable as he is about shoes, can know so well as he that is pained. I care nothing about all the theories brought forward by either side, I look to facts; and pooh-poohing homœopathy, and saying it cannot do this and cannot do that, is like the man who, being in the stocks, was asked by one of his associates, what he was there for, and having told him, "Pooh pooh," said he, "they *can't* put you there for that." "I don't know," said the prisoner, "whether they can or not, but I know that I am here." So it is with me; I have sought relief from homœopathy, and found it, notwithstanding its power is denied, and its theories ridiculed by its opponents, who had a fair trial, and could not produce the same beneficial results. Have those medical gentlemen who are so loud in their condemnation of homœopathy studied it? if not, what can their opinions be worth? Prejudices are of strong growth in vulgar minds; and a knowledge of the opposition experienced by inoculation, and how many refused to adopt vaccination, should make men of enlightened mind examine tho-

roughly before they condemn. Homœopathy is spoken of as an "*innovation*," so are railroads, and thankful are we for them. I am not the less grateful to those who gave me the benefit of their scientific attainments as far as they went, because time and science have combined to produce a system much more beneficial (as I have found it) than the old one. But to speak of a "*legitimate practice*" is to claim one of the most intolerable monopolies that can possibly be conceived, as it is seeking to put down every other. I have no wish to suffer for the cause of "*legitimacy*" or "*orthodoxy*"; and those opinions which in one age are at the top of the tree of knowledge, may in the succeeding one be displaced by others still more enlightened, for science cannot stand still; and those who think to annihilate homœopathy by foul language and abuse, might as well try to destroy the diamond by putting it under a dunghill.

Your obedient servant, F. S.

Dr. Simpson, of Edinburgh, a violent opponent of our school, says that his standard by which to try Homœopathy is "*common sense*." This term is rather indefinite, and history shows that it is not always the same, for scientific discoveries have changed it many times, and the prospect now is, in a few years it will be contrary to common sense to have confidence in allopathy: some declare boldly that it is so even now.

The violent opposition to Homœopathy of the numerous Allopathic Medical Associations in England and Scotland is convincing the people that there must be something in Homœopathy, or it would not require to overthrow it such an expenditure of time, of so many words and of so much sound and fury, all of which, thus far, has amounted to nothing.

The New-York Medical Times is rather tame; the Medical Gazette says it is the organ of a *clique*. By the way, the Gazette is very severe upon a Homœopathic practitioner who it seems is in the habit of praying, which, in the opinion of the Gazette, is evidence of hypocrisy in the man, and of the absurdity of Homœopathy.

It is reported by good authority that Dr. Mott has again accepted the chair of Surgery in the New-York University; and that Dr. Van Beuren is appointed Professor of Anatomy in the place of the late Prof. Patterson.

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S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

## OBSERVATIONS ON THE THREE CURRENT METHODS OF TREATMENT.

By S. HAHNEMANN.

(Continued.)

I KNOW not which parempiricism is preferable to the other, whether the treatment of the name of the disease, or the treatment of the name of particular symptoms. Suffice it to say, that this method had much greater attractions for the superficially instructed, much greater than most of the other methods with a trace of rationality in them, hence it was that most generally pursued by those who wished to be considered really learned physicians of a better stamp than the common herd. Of all the false methods of treatment it will undoubtedly have the longest run, because it does not necessitate much care nor much thought. It is undoubtedly very agreeable for the physician to feel himself so powerful, or at all events to appear to be able to promote perspiration here, urine there, to lull pain here, to excite there, to bind here, to loosen there, to incise here, to expel there, to strengthen here, to cool there, to check spasms here, and putridity there, to accomplish all that he commands his cohorts of medicines to do. How often the practitioner cannot do all this, how often he finds himself deceived in his expectations relative to the medicines which have been stamped as general remedies by his teachers, he knows full well himself.

But admitting there were such general remedies that would here and there certainly promote perspiration, assuredly cause a flow of urine, strikingly soothe pain, infallibly strengthen, undeniably resolve, loosen, purge, and cause vomiting, powerfully act upon the secretion of mucus, in every case cool, allay every spasm, and check every inordinate discharge, unhesitatingly transfer congestions from a more to a less important seat, will all this, supposing it went on ever so beautifully, cure the disease? Oh, no! in most cases not. Something striking has been performed, *but health has not been restored*, and that was what had to be done.

At one time the physician soothes with his

opium for a few hours cough and pains in the chest; after sixteen hours, however, the painful cough increases to a still more frightful extent—he produces a stupefied sleep with it, but the patient is not refreshed thereby, his sleeplessness and anxiety become all the greater. The physician does not care for this; he increases the dose of his palliative, or he is contented with having shown his power to allay cough and to cause sleep, though the patient is made worse thereby, though he should even die. *Fiat justitia et pereat mundus.*

Here is a ease of dropsy; very little urine is passed. Our doctor will promote its flow. His squill stands at the head of his diuretic piequet. Beautiful! it instantly causes a great flow of urine, but on continuing its use, alas! always less and less water comes. Symptoms of atonic inflammation and mortification ensue, the anorexia, debility and restlessness increase with the swelling. Then if nothing more will avail, he allows the patient to die quietly, after having shown that he has the power of causing a flow of urine for some days.

Squill has been used many thousands of times as a diuretic (during all the ages it has been employed it was never observed that it was only diuretic in a palliative sense) and yet how seldom has dropsy been *cured* by it! only when a kind of suppressed menstruation was the cause.

The physician who is consulted diagnoses this malady to be gastric; he purges and re-purges. But behold the fever increases, the taste becomes more disagreeable, the breath and the excrements more fetid, the sclerotic yellower, the tongue more furred and browner, the ideas get confused, the lips tremble, stupefying slumber takes the place of sleep, &c. He is sorry to see his patient hurrying on towards his grave, but he is happy that he possessed the power of energetically purging away the impurities. What is the matter with you? "I put myself in a violent passion, my head is like to burst, I have spasms in my stomach, the bile rises incessantly into my mouth." You will, perhaps, take a bilious fever, take this emetic immediately. Look! he throws up bile, he vomits again and again, he will vomit up his very inside—the night of death obscures his sight, whilst he is bathed in cold perspiration. "I have done my duty,"

says the doctor to himself; "I have done all I could to clear away the bad bile."

And thus it is with the whole array of general remedies. The respectable doctor does much, only not what he ought;—he produces remarkable effects, but very seldom health.

Thousand-fold experience could teach him, if he would but let himself be taught, that in dropsy he only requires to remove the morbid disposition, in order to see the water disappear by ways which nature knows best how to choose for herself,—but that his designed removal of the water by the urinary organs, or by ools, effects a cure as seldom as tapping it off with the trocar; when a cure does ensue, it must be because the diuretic remedy was accidentally at the same time the proper remedy for the disease upon which that kind of dropsy depended.

Thousand-fold experience could teach him, if he would but let himself be taught, that no pain can be removed permanently and advantageously to the patient except by a remedy that affords relief to the fundamental disease; that, consequently, opium *very rarely* allays pains permanently *with desirable results*, and only when it is the true remedy for the disease on which they depended.

That opium is often the best remedy in disease most free from pain, and attended with the greatest amount of sopor, that he does not and will not know. He is proud of his power of palliating, and of being able to allay pains for a few hours; but the after-effects—they do not trouble him. *Nil nisi quod ante pedes est.*

Where the short-sighted individual thought that it was absolutely necessary to remove bucketfuls of fetid mucus and excrement by means of all sorts of emetics and purgatives, in order to preserve life, in such a case a single drop of the tincture of arnica root will often remove, in the course of a couple of hours, all the fever, all the bilious taste, all the tormina, the tongue becomes clean, and the strength is restored before night. Short-sighted being!

But the poisonous bile, stirred up by rage and passion, how can it be subdued without causing it to be vomited clean away? My short-sighted friend! a single dose, an almost imperceptibly small quantity of the right medicine\* will, *without any evacuation of bile*, have restored all to the right state before the second day dawns. The patient has not died as he would have done after your emetic; he has recovered.

How often are blood-letting and nitre abused, to combat symptoms of heat! Lay aside your life-shortening, temporising remedies, remove the disease on which the accelerated pulse depends, by the appropriate remedy, and the heat ceases of its own accord. But I perceive that you are not concerned about the cure of the disease, to subdue the heat is your object. Then rather open one of

the large arteries until the last drop of blood is drained off, you will thereby attain your object more surely and more completely!

And thus it is always with your favorite general remedies. They render you the service of sometimes showing you to be a mighty physician. Only it is a pity that the patient who peradventure recovers (slowly and painfully enough!) seldom, seldom owes his recovery *to them*.

But the general remedies just as often do not perform the effects they desire. Only look, how their antiphlogistic remedies often actually increase the inflammation, how their tonics increase the weakness, their purgatives the symptoms of impurities in the alimentary canal, their solvents the quantity of mucus and the hardness of the abdomen, their sedatives the pains, their derivatives the congestions, their diaphoretics the dryness of the skin, their diuretics the want of urine and œdema!

And if they sometimes succeed in checking this or that symptom for a time, or in effecting this or that striking evacuation, how comes it that the disease, notwithstanding, sometimes assumes a worse turn? *Am I right in asserting that they were not the proper remedies for the disease?*

In like manner, the poor fellow unable to swim, struggles away with awkward partial movements of his arms and legs, to sink all the more certainly to the bottom.

In ordinary everyday practice, however, it is not required that we should trouble ourselves with anxiously attending to single symptoms. "When once we have got over the first irksome years incidental to young beginners—years they undoubtedly are of irksomeness and care, when we are still anxious to discover the adequate, the helpful, the best for our patients, and when the tender conscience of youth gives us much trouble—when once we have got over these pedantic years, and have got some way into the period of divine routine, then it is a real pleasure to be a practical physician. Then we have only to assume a dignified mode of carrying the head, speak in a tenor voice so as to inspire respect, give great importance to the movements of the three first fingers of the right hand, and present a certain authoritative something in the whole management of the voice and attitudes of the body, in order to be able to exercise perfectly in all its details, the golden art of the *savoir faire* of the routine physician. Of course the smallest details of the attire, of the equipage, of the furniture, and of the array of servants, must all be in harmonious keeping.

"If our whole thinking power and memory during the four-and-twenty hours of each day are completely absorbed in such matters, this renders us all the more successful as physicians. Our whole practice, be it said betwixt ourselves, consists in two or three innocuous mixtures, well known to the chemist, in as many compound powders adapted for all cases, in an expensive *tinctura nervino-roborans*, a

\* Frequently the extract of chamomile.

few juleps, and a couple of formulas for pills, either for acting on the blood or the bowels (*nostrums* and *routine remedies* if you will), and with these we get on capitally. My steaming horses rattle up to N.'s door, I descend from my carriage assisted by the respectful domestic, with helpful speed, but with an air of deep thought and dignified mien. The attendants of the patient throw open both wings of the door of the sick-room. In silence and with abased head stand esteem, confidence, and semi-devotion in a row, to allow the deliverer to approach the sick bed. 'How did you sleep last night, my good friend?—your tongue!—your pulse!' The powders ordered yesterday may be discontinued. The mixture prescribed here is to be taken alternately with the pills, indicated below, followed by the julep every half hour.' Taking a pinch of snuff with an air of profound gravity, seizing my hat and stick and making a practised bow, the degree of which is regulated for every one in particular, according to his supposed importance or rank, this constitutes the whole of the important comedy (shall I call it business?) for which we are paid as a consultation, and which we repeat as often per diem as the serious looks of the surrounding friends seem to render it necessary; for they are the barometer of the danger, since we have neither time nor inclination to ascertain it for ourselves in all our cases." And how many visits of this sort do you pay in one day? "Do you imagine, you simpleton, that I can keep up my establishment with less than several dozens of visits in a forenoon?"—What Herculean mental labor!—"Ha! ha! ha! to scribble down on a long strip of paper one of the eight or ten routine prescriptions that I can reckon up on my fingers, and can seize on in the dark without a moment's thought, the first, the best that occurs to me at the moment, without the least reflection; do you call that mental labor? It is a much more difficult matter for me to find a pair of handsome bays to supply the place of my used-up afternoon horses! *hoc opus! hic labor!*"

"I have just now also much difficulty in thinking of the appropriate dishes for the sixth entrée of the entertainment we are to give to-morrow fortnight, so that it may be distinguished for its rarity in respect of the season of the year, for its suitable elegance, and for its brilliant tastefulness. *Et hoc opus et hic labor!*"

The so-called favorite remedies are in great vogue; without being able to give the slightest reason for so doing, one physician of the ordinary stamp will mix with every prescription, prepared mussel-shells, a second always manages to introduce magnesia, a third invariably adds spiritus mindereri, a fourth can scarcely write a prescription from which purified nitre is excluded, a fifth brings into all his prescriptions the inspissated juice of the root of tritcum repens, a sixth thinks he cannot give the extract of dandelion often enough, a seventh

seasons every draught with opium, and an eighth endeavors to bring in cinchona everywhere, whether it is suitable or not, and so it goes on. Most every-day physicians have, they know not why, their favorite remedies. Anything more indolent and parempirical cannot be imagined. How should all the countless array of infinitely various diseases, each of which demands a peculiar mode of treatment, always accommodate themselves to one and the same remedy, which the doctor may happen to have taken under his sublime protection? Sooner might a cabinet-minister be chosen from mere caprice, and it be taken for granted that the subjects of the prince will be sufficiently obedient and intelligent as to make harmony of the false gamut.

To stake constantly on the drawing of one and the same number always betrays a bad lotto-player. He *must* certainly occasionally win, but how much, or rather how little can he win? And does he not continually lose, these few miserable cases excepted, by not winning? Does he not render himself ridiculous to all the world?

(*To be continued.*)

#### LOGIC OF ALLOPATHS.

MY DEAR DOCTOR,—You have doubtless seen the New-York Medical Gazette of the 16th February last, and noticed the request to its "readers" not to "fail to peruse Dr. Simpson's speech on homœopathy." The editor says this speech "is worth more than all that has been said or written on this side the water." Perhaps it is an elaborate exposition of *all* Dr. Simpson knows of that shocking heresy and delusion, and perhaps the course he is pursuing may be well calculated to enlighten the "profession" on the subject of their duty to themselves and to the public. It is the easiest thing in the world to write letters and make speeches about "humbugs;" for the wish is father to the thought, and grave subjects are handled as flippantly by these learned and honourable gentlemen, as though they alone possessed a chartered right to a monopoly in profundity of knowledge and discrimination on all medical subjects.

There has been a good deal said and written on *this* side the water against the principles and practice of homœopathy, nor has the "profession" been idle on the *other* side, in sounding the charge upon their brazen trumpets, that is to annihilate the "deluded upstarts" who advocate the "monstrous absurdity" of maintaining *their* opinions, based upon deliberate investigation. The *worth* of Dr.

Simpson's speech is not very easily determined, for the pith of it (if it has any) is so smothered in a multitude of words, that its value cannot be discovered without serious damage to the truth.

The speech is introduced by the Gazette's editor, with a remark or two very adroitly got up to serve an unmanly purpose. "It seems," says he, "that Dr. Henderson, who was a clinical professor in the University, and physician to the Royal Infirmary, has treated a case of pneumonia in the latter institution by infinitesimal doses of phosphorus. *The patient died of course.*" Ergo, the Faculty promptly removed Dr. Henderson from his official station. This patient, who "*of course died,*" because treated homeopathically, was an unnecessary and heartless sacrifice of human life. Had the case been treated upon the "*well established*" principles and practice of the "Faculty," the patient would "*of course*" have recovered. Of course *all* cases of pneumonia are fatal under homœopathic treatment, all recover (no, not *all*) under the scientific therapeia of Allopathy. This inference is plain enough, and so Dr. Reese *designed* it should be, and he further *designed*, that this "*case of pneumonia,*" treated by Dr. Henderson, should be regarded by his readers as one of *recent occurrence*, as well as the "*removal of Dr. Henderson from his official station.*" Suppressed facts may mislead the judgment quite as much as a positive falsehood, we will therefore give the *facts* in this "*case of pneumonia,*" which was fatal "*of course.*"

The patient was 46 years of age, and was admitted into the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh on the 2d of July 1844, *more than 7 years ago.* About three weeks before, he had been bruised about the chest and body, and in the course of a week, became affected with difficult breathing, but no pain. There was considerable expectoration deeply tinged with blood, and frothy. On the 5th had diarrhoea, which troubled him a good deal for some days. In early life he had been a hard drinker, but for the last ten years had given it up altogether. For the previous two years, he had suffered from stomach complaint; no appetite for food. His mind somewhat affected, manner peculiar.

*July 8, 1844.*—The lower half of the left side of the chest, posteriorly, is dull on percussion; and occasionally bronchial respiration, and bronchial voice, are audible over that

space, and sometimes slight mucous rattle. The dulness on percussion does not extend forwards beyond the commencement of the lateral region, and at this point there is crepitus. On the right side, at its lower part, for about three fingers' breadth, the percussion sound is much impaired, and subcrepitation is heard.

Pulse 134, full, very soft, now and then intermittent. Respirations 24. Expectoration scanty, rusty, glutinous, and frothy. Tongue furred and clammy. 1½ P.M. Dose of phosphorus, 4th dilution.

4 P.M.—Pulse 128, soft and regular. No cough, or expectoration. Felt his breathing freer. Has slept at intervals; had not slept last night for the cough, expectoration, and frequent calls to stool. Respirations 21.

5 P.M.—Pulse 120, full and soft. Respirations 24. No stool. Laryngeal wheezing during respiration for the last two hours. Respiratory murmur pure in front. Phosphorus 3d dilution, a dose, and another dose at 6 P.M.

9 P.M.—Pulse full and soft; 108 and 110 when intermittent, 120 when not. Has expectorated once, the sputa free from blood. Respirations 24. Sleep betimes. Three small stools. Another dose of phosphorus 3d.

11 P.M.—Pulse 104 when intermitting, 120 when not. Respirations 24. No stool. Skin very hot. Is very sleepy. Repeat phosphorus 3d.

*July 9, 1½ A.M.*—Pulse 110 when intermitting, 118 when not. Respiration 20. One stool. Frequent cough.

8½ A.M.—Phosphorus repeated. More wheezing, some sibilant and sonorous rattles in front. Pulse 120, soft, but not feeble. Respiration 26. Hot skin. No stool.

The phosphorus was now omitted; and as the bowels did not seem to be materially affected, tartar emetic in the usual doses was ordered, and a blister applied to the chest, as there were signs of general bronchitis. In the course of the day the rattles became more abundant, expectoration of a dingy red colour, and considerable. No amendment occurred, although the usual remedies were fully tried. Death on the morning of the 10th.

*Autopsy.*—Middle lobe of the right lung completely solid, and of a pale red colour. The lowest lobe engorged, and externally coated with lymph. The lower lobe of the left lung solid throughout, the surface partially

covered with lymph. Heart hypertrophous, weight sixteen ounces. Mucous membrane of the stomach mammillated; traces of previous inflammation of the spleen.

This is the case which "it seems" Dr. Henderson treated with infinitesimal doses of phosphorus in 1844, and "of course it was fatal." It forms the thirty-third case in his "enquiry into the practice of Homœopathy." He states in a note, that he adopted the treatment, because he felt satisfied there was no chance of success from the ordinary plan. There was a *hope* that the homœopathic practice might be effectual, and Dr. Henderson only regretted that he did not give a lower dilution of phosphorus, and persevere in its employment.

But what of the speech? It eclipses all that has been said or written on the subject of Homœopathy in *this* country, so says Dr. Reese, at all events. Nor is this endorsement at all remarkable, if we but reflect upon the avidity with which *such* things are seized upon and magnified by those Tritons in the corps editorial, who imagine their readers will swallow their monstrous doses of absurdity, by assuming to decide the most profound questions of science without study or imprejudiced investigation.

With a deal of labour we have cracked this nut of Dr. Simpson's and found it to contain but a *very* small kernel. Truly it is an allopathic dose, bulky and nauseous, but very harmless in its operation. "*Montes parturunt, nascitur ridiculus mus.*" As an argument against Homœopathy, it isn't *worth* the paper it is printed on, nor is it one jot better or more respectable than the letter of that esculapian donkey, whose correspondence in the Northern Lancet is to "be read with open mouth and glaring eyes, by many whole-souled, good-hearted country physicians." We think it would not be difficult to prove Dr. Burch an egotistical flunkey.

Neither time nor space admits of further remarks on the speech; we may overhaul its profundity at some future period, if in the humour to submit its logic to the test of "common sense," by which we do *not* mean common and limited experience.

YOURS &c.

March, 1852.

Truth.

#### REPLY TO PROFESSOR SIMPSON'S SPEECH ON HOMŒOPATHY.

SIR,—Your speech at a recent meeting of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh having gone the round of the local papers, I now take the liberty of making a reply to it; and, in order to save time and space, shall merely take up the various topics of the said speech *seriatim*, without repeating your own words.

If there are any follies which attach to Hahnemann's character or his writings, you would be fully justified in exposing them. No one has yet done so. As homœopathists, we profess our belief in the law of cure which he discovered and promulgated; but in doing so we do not pin ourselves to his coat-sleeves and feel compelled to believe every thing that he may advance on any subject. None of us believe in his infallibility any more than we do in yours, and we are as willing to give you all due credit for any valuable discovery you may make, as we now do Hahnemann; without at the same time having any thing to do with any of your follies. We select for imitation and personal improvement whatever we see to be really good and valuable in any one's character or system, even though he may have had his follies. Who is without them?

You, then, as a society, compare the right you have to deal with your members, to that which a Christian congregation has to do with theirs. But, Sir, allow me to tell you that you have no *such* right. A Christian congregation, of whatever denomination, is in possession of a Bible containing the law and testimony, to which it can appeal, and by which standard it can judge of those who differ from them. You, on the contrary, have no Bible—no infallible law nor testimony, to which you can appeal, and by which you can judge any one. How, then, can you have such right? As a school having any relation to a Christian congregation, you are more to be compared with infidels than anything else. You profess to be without law—you say there *can* be no fixed principle or law by which to regulate the practice of medicine—and yet you assume the position of being our judges!

That the Homœopathic and Mormonite heresies have many points in common may be seeming to one with filmy eyes, but they are not real. The following detestable Popish ideas, although cautiously expressed, ought to have been kept to yourself,—"That physicians should choose the *kind* of medical treatment for the public, and that clergymen should

Otis Clapp, of Boston, proposes to publish a Quarterly Homœopathic Journal, of about 52 pages, at one dollar a year in advance.

choose their religion!" Never! The red flag of persecution in the hand of a foreign despot may be again unfurled on our shores, and the terror and gloom of the dark ages again threaten to overwhelm our country, but never shall the people of Great Britain surrender that liberty of conscience which their forefathers bled to purchase, and which they have long struggled to maintain. They have made up their minds for ever that, in matters of conscience, they shall act for themselves. They will not allow any set of clergymen to judge or choose a religion for them; neither will they passively hand over their right of private judgment in medical matters to you nor any of yours. Divest your system of all its Latin jargon, theoretical dogmas, and vain speculations—give it out to the world in a language which can be generally understood, and let it stand the test of a discriminating public—common sense if you will. The non-professional public have heads as well as Professors; and rest assured, they can see as far into a bag of sawdust as you can, with all your appliances to boot.

That some have believed Hahnemann to be actually inspired, requires more than your own *ipse dixit* to prove. That he was a man possessed of the highest mental endowments, I know from the testimony of those who knew him intimately; but that he laid any claim to being inspired is not true. You confess that the heresy is extending; yes, it is, and you can't stop it. The war has been kept up with unrelenting bitterness on the part of the old school for half a century; and yet year after year bears testimony to our triumphant and victorious career. Hahnemann, single-handed and alone, braved the whole army of the Philistines, and came off a victor, crowned with laurels. In our own country homeopathy arose like a small cloud on the horizon, which the old school thought the first breeze would dissipate; and now, look at it. It has spread over the whole length and breadth of the land. A few months ago a leading medical journal of the old school gave out that homeopathy was on the decline in the metropolis, and almost extinct in the provinces. What will some men not say? Now a professor of the same school says the heresy is extending.

In the course of your speech you are next led to refer to the basis or foundation of practical medicine, to the law by which all sound practice ought to be regulated. On this head your words are necessarily few, though I suspect your

thoughts have been numerous, and strangely perplexing. Like the Mormon prophet, I think I see you betaking yourself to that mysterious box, or repertorium of medical science, containing the past, present, and future history of medicine; and after raising the lid, you search eagerly among its dusty records for the revelation of some law to help you in your present emergency, but in vain. All the time you maintain that this box actually does contain the *summum bonum* of practical medicine. At length, by means of the prophet's wonderful *urim* and *thumim* spectacles, you bring forth a plate on which is inscribed a law of great antiquity, which had been lost for many generations. As proof of its originality, it is written in some strange characters which the followers of the prophet call the *glyph of stolum*, and which no one can understand without the aid of strange spectacles. The literal translation of this law, as given in your own words, is the *standard of common sense*. As it is evident you purpose being the sole proprietors of this rare commodity, perhaps you will be after taking out a patent for it; so that all who are desirous of possessing this article shall be compelled to purchase it from you, and receive your stamp upon it, without which all others must be spurious. It is evident, Sir, that you assume yourselves to be the sole proprietors of common sense; and by virtue of this prerogative you become our judges. Is this not a piece of bare-faced presumption? I consider myself to be in possession of as much sound common sense as you; and, so far as that is concerned, have as much right to judge in regard to the truth of homeopathy as you have. In this matter, I fear that any common sense you may be in possession of is sadly perverted. If you are in any measure to be led by this standard yourself, you ought certainly to give homeopathy a fair and honest trial. And if you do not find that it answers better than the old system, then just give it up. That would be a thorough common-sense way of deciding the matter for yourself. You did try it once, according to your own confession, and in that case you were successful too; why not give it a further trial? Every one of you are conscious that the old system is wofully deficient, and you are constantly trying experiments with new, doubtful, and dangerous remedies. You have even tried mesmerism; why not try homeopathy? Not a few of the most eminent men in the old school have tried the expectant or do-nothing

system—many others have tried bread pills—and all these have declared that they were fully as successful by these methods as they were by bleeding, blistering, etc. Why, then, not try homœopathy? But, Sir, before doing this, you would require to be at some trouble. You are not born with an intuitive knowledge of this system any more than other people are; and your eminence as an obstetrician is no reason why you must necessarily know everything else. You would require to study it patiently and perseveringly before putting it to a rash trial.

You next come to the subject of the so-called infinitesimal doses. What you say on this head is a thrice-told tale, without even a shade of originality on your part. In making such quotations you resemble a certain class of heroes, who take special delight in setting up men of straw to make a show before the public in knocking them down again. You are quite well aware that the truth of homœopathy is not at all connected with these doses. It was practised successfully long before these doses were known, and is still practised successfully without them. The truth or error, in regard to infinitesimal doses, does not in the slightest degree affect homœopathy. This I beg you, and any who may have read your speech, to bear in mind as an established fact. With every homœopathist the dose is distinctly an undecided and open question. What we maintain on this matter is this:—That doses of medicine much smaller than those which you are generally in the habit of using are effectual in curing disease, when given in accordance with the law of cure, *similia similibus curantur*, though such doses may have no perceptible effect upon the healthy body. In proof of this we appeal to thousands of facts. Against this law of cure you have not attempted to advance a single argument; for a very good reason, you could not.

You next refer to the number of our medicines, the cost of a chemist's stock, and the preparation of our remedies,—on each of which heads your statements are incorrect. In the first volume of our Pathogenetic Cyclopædia there is a list of 323 medicines; and there are several new remedies added since then. As to the cost of a chemist's stock, you may be able to form some more correct idea when I inform you that I saw one single invoice for undiluted medicines from a wholesale drug-house which amounted to £48. As to the different dilutions, many of us prepare these ourselves from the crude drug, so

that we know to a certainty what and how much they contain.

Your speech as a whole, does you anything but honor. Drowning men catch at straws, and certainly you have got hold of nothing better. Truths, the most precious and important ever revealed to man, have often been made the subject of ridicule by those who could not overturn them by an appeal to reason and facts. You are an eminent man in your own department, highly talented, no doubt, and, like the Greeks of old, perhaps "seeking after wisdom," but unfortunately too like them in despising and overlooking facts. You are not, however, altogether unreasonable, and I would take the liberty of pressing upon you the claim which homœopathy has to a patient and impartial investigation. The testimony in its favour is of the highest and strongest character. You have reports of hospitals, dispensaries, and other public charities, all of which combine in showing that a far greater amount of success is attainable under the new method of treatment than under the old. And several thousand physicians, practising in every civilised country in the world, unite in testifying to the great superiority of the homœopathic mode of treatment, in private practice, over that of the allopathic. It will not do to judge of the subject *a priori*, by any preconceived notions, and say that it is ridiculous. You, in particular, can't do this with any show of good grace. You know that there are many learned people who still ridicule and reject all those palpable and astounding effects produced by mesmerism. A few passes with the hand—a mere look at the patient to produce such effects! Nonsense. And yet you are a believer in mesmerism; a thing far more improbable-like, and ten times more ridiculous than homœopathy. What more improbable and ridiculous-like than to say that the ticking of a clock in London could be distinctly heard, and the vibrations of the pendulum correctly registered in Edinburgh? The efficacy of small doses is not nearly so ridiculous as this. And how do we establish the truth of these; by an appeal to common sense? By no means; but by referring to incontestable facts. How would you prove that the earth revolves on its axis, or that there is such a planet as Neptune, or that the asteroids Flora, Iris, Metis, Hygeia have any existence? By an appeal to common sense? No, but by observation and facts. In the same way, Sir, ought you to deal with homœopathy and small doses. Investigate, judge for yourself,

and dare to be wise.—S. C.—*Dundee Advertiser*, Dundee, December 23, 1851.

Although there are many valuable thoughts in the above article from the *Dundee Advertiser*, yet we should not have placed it in our columns to the exclusion of other matter, had not certain allopathic journals in the country published Dr. Simpson's silly speech against Homœopathy, to which this is an answer, and rejoiced with exceeding great joy at finding so choice a morsel for ridicule and scandal. Dr. Reese of the *Medical Gazette* is in high glee, and more than insinuates that Homœopathy is done for now. We regret that this gentleman's hilarity must be disturbed, but truth demands that we should do so by placing before our readers the able reply of S. C.

For the American Journal of Homœopathy.

**MR. EDITOR:**—I am highly gratified with the course you have pursued in the fearless vindication of those principles of science and art which have been made to express themselves through the truly significant term, Homœopathy—those principles which belong to no party, time, nor place, but to *nature* and to *man*, by whom they were not made, but transcribed from that code of laws whose maker is God; principles which cannot change to suit the visionary dogmas of Eclectics, Hydropathists, Allopathists, nor Homœopathists, until the constitution of Nature is changed by its Author.

I am the more pleased with your course, as viewed in contrast with those of our number whose obliquity of reason and uberty of folly suffer them to fly off in a tangent beyond the prescriptive limits of Him whose finger hath marked the bounds of all created things, and who hath stamped upon every link in the long chain of created existence, definite and unchanging rules of action, and relations to each other.

I am aware that all such as adhere to principles with tenacity, at the expense of empiricism, are charged with a lack of benevolence; they are called narrow-minded, close communion subjects of one *idea*. Because of what? Is it for the reason that infinite elasticity was not given to Nature's laws, by which we might stretch them and bend them to suit the broken down hobbies of discouraged and disappointed partisans? or is it because we prize *that* a jewel which makes our actions conform to our

professions? or is it because we are unwilling to lend our influence to extricate that multitude of hydropaths from the dilemma into which they blindly plunged, who have pronounced Hydropathy to the world as an infallible system of cure, and failed to meet public expectation; or that we do not accept Eclecticism as our ruling idea, to the abandonment of principles and a therapeutic law?

That the votaries of these systems without science, and monstrous arts without a rule of action, should take such positions towards the consistent friends of the complete doctrine of Homœopathy is not strange. But that any should, with anything like a just appreciation of Homœopathy, woo to their embrace the broken-down hobbies and the bad bargains of disappointed *Hydropaths*, is truly strange—and stranger still the childish effort to reconcile Hydropathy and Homœopathy, as two systems or separate and complete doctrines, and blend them in one.

If water is presented to us as a therapeutic agent, it should be treated like every other proposed remedy, and take its place in our *Materia Medica*, to find its sphere of utility by the rule of our art. That water possesses curative properties is not my province here to deny, but to expose the childish folly, the twisted reason, which would dignify a broken-down hobby into competition with a complete medical doctrine.

Who would think of getting up a large magazine devoted to Slippery Elm Poultices and Homœopathy? or to Lobelia, or *Mandrake root*, or *Skunk Cabbage* and Homœopathy? And yet who can fail to see the parallelism between this and the course pursued by some of our number in regard to an article of regimen and general treatment of the sick, viz., Water, under the name of Hydropathy?

No sane man will deny that water is indispensable to health and life; that under its use, millions have recovered from serious illness, and as many departed this life; the same may be said in truth of bread, rest, and clothing, the spheres of whose usefulness should never be overlooked by him who assumes to stand between the living and the dead, whose duty it is to cure his patients in the quickest, mildest, and safest manner. I would not covet the trammels of intellect by which men are bound to party; nor that obliquity of reason by which physicians claim larger liberties in the use of therapeutic

means, than those prescribed by the God of Nature; nor that benevolent folly by which one is capable of seeing the right about half-way between science and empiricism, as pointed out in the introduction to Everest's popular work on Homœopathy; nor that *excessive* goodness of heart by which men are led to the adoption of Hydropathy, through sympathy for those who would gladly snap it off for a reliable system of cure. We are gravely told that homœopathic medicines are used in nearly all the hydropathic establishments in Europe and America. At this we are not surprised when we reflect that the predominant impulses of the human heart point to righteousness and truth. If the friends of water-cure prefer the light of sure science, and a reliable art of curing, we should hold the torch above their path, not to be extinguished by a wet sheet, but to light their pathway to truth.

Water belongs to the world, and its uses to mankind, and the spheres of its utility should be faithfully sought for and thoroughly understood by the physician, that he may know when, where, and how to use it. So with every other agent calculated by the Creator to subserve the comfort and well-being of man, both in health, and when diseased.

But no physician is at liberty to pursue a course of conduct calculated to reflect a shade of insignificance upon a complete and perfect medical doctrine, by dignifying water, or any other agent, with the significant appendix, PATHY, through which that doctrine is made to express its principles to the human mind.

We are all aware that the term *Homœopathy* is made to express vastly more than is understood by its literal translation. It is made expressive of a complete medical doctrine which is made up of principles of both science and art. If the term Homœopathy, and the phrase *similia similibus curantur*, were synonymous, then of course *Homœopathy* would be a term expressive of the principle of our art only; but, as used, it expresses vastly more—but one of many principles.

We have pathology with *its* principles, viz. :

1. Dynamic nature of life.
2. Disease, a condition of action.
3. Morbific agents, dynamic in their nature.

We have the science of medicine with its principles :

4. Pure experimentation teaches what is medicinal.

5. Dynamic nature of remedies.
6. Division the increment of power ; and
7. Like cures like, as the rule of our art.

All of which find utterance through the term Homœopathy, whose profound significance should never be treated with trifling levity by the friends of truth and science. *So much for consistency sake.*

As one of the things which I have found pleasing, I have mentioned the purity of Homœopathy, as reflected through your journal, and personified in yourself.

As another, I will mention the aspect of matters relating to our cause, as observed during a short visit among our friends at Cleveland.

I was gratified to find Homœopathy in the hands of those with whom it will suffer no abuse, and deeply fixed in the confidence of the people there. The Homœopathic College is in a flourishing condition; a light placed upon a candlestick—unwelcome, indeed, to those who, snoozing in dark places, are greatly disturbed by the brightness of its rays. The Allopathic College is firmly bolted against homœopathic students, they are not admitted there even on a visit, but this is not surprising, for the homœopathic class is made up of young men with hearts to feel, and heads to know the extent of their ridiculous mummeries and tomfooleries called *lecturing on medical science*. The truth is, they have to do so, or expose their ignorance, which would be quickly detected by even the first term students in the homœopathic class. They will not allow their students even to visit the Homœopathic College, without a serious court-martialing on their return; this is too bad, for the young and unsophisticated mind has always evinced an instinctive tendency to truth. They must feed their young minds on queer fodder at home, to drive them off in search of better. When they go into the Homœopathic College they are well fed, finely treated, and asked to call again by the professors, who teach the truths of our system with double edge, and a point at both ends.

Cleveland is a delightful place, where I hope thousands will go and light their torch and start out, declaring and demonstrating the truth to all the world.

There are some eight or nine ladies in the homœopathic class who are destined “to rise and shine,”

"When moving around with noiseless tread,  
Gliding, like angels, round the sick man's bed."

They are not to be outdone by the boys, they are pleased with their studies, and will consequently soon master the profession, and be out on errands of mercy. *God speed them!* Homœopathy remains pure in *Pittsburgh*, as when I last wrote you, and is progressing in the confidence of the people.

Yours, &c.,  
D. M. DAKE, M. D.

Pittsburgh, Jan. 29th, 1852.

#### REMUNERATION FOR MEDICAL SERVICES.

This is a ticklish subject. We are aware we must be cautious in what we say about it. If we should speak "right out" what we think, it is, that physicians, generally, have seemingly pretended to make a money remuneration a secondary consideration in the practice of the art of healing. They have, unwittingly perhaps, given the public to believe that physicians are more benevolent than any other class of citizens, while the fact is, the medical practitioner expects, and he has a right to expect, to be paid, and liberally too, for his services; and when his advice is sought and given he looks for something more than "I thank you, sir." It is no uncommon thing for strangers to call on a physician at his office, detail to him their sufferings of years' standing, occupy his time for an hour or two, receive advice and medicine, and pay him by saying "I thank you sir. If this medicine does not cure me, I will call again." If the physician politely hints that he expects a cash fee, he is told, "I did not expect to pay until your treatment of me is completed, and I did not come prepared, but it shall be attended to at my next visit." But the next visit is never made. In this and similar ways, the valuable time of the practitioner, as well as his skill, are filched from him in his office, and not only so, but sometimes his reputation is attacked by those who have cheated him.

A person, a stranger, once called upon us for medical advice. We made a careful record of his case, and selected the remedy, which took more than an hour. We gave him a single dose of medicine and requested him to call again in a few days. No fee was

tendered. A short time afterwards an allopath said to us, referring to this same person, "I am treating a former patient of yours whom you could not cure. He says he has had enough of Homœopathy." This man represented to our allopathic friend that he had been under our treatment for a long time without improvement. Thus we lost our time, our fee, and had to endure an attack on Homœopathy. But our allopathic friend had been "done for" in the matter of a fee as well as ourself.

We are in favor of cash fees. It would be better for all parties. Those who complain of high charges should pay cash for services, and in all likelihood there would be no occasion for complaint. Physicians too often undervalue their services, while surgeons, on the contrary, too often overvalue theirs. The public seem to think that the services of the latter should receive a much higher remuneration than those of the former. This is an error, and great injustice is done in consequence of it. We remember to have been requested to apply the forceps in an obstetrical case, which occupied but a few minutes, and required but little skill, for which service fifty dollars were voluntarily tendered. On a cold winter night we rode in an open wagon some twelve miles, to meet a practitioner in counsel in a severe and usually fatal disease. The patient was cured, and we detained from home for fourteen hours. Our charge was fifty dollars, the payment of which was refused on the ground of its being excessive. These two cases fairly illustrate the public mind in regard to remuneration for medical services, and justice demands that it should be corrected, which, however, will never be done unless physicians themselves do it. This desirable object could be accomplished, if, 1st, physicians could not collect fees by law. 2d. If all fees were demanded before or immediately after the services are rendered. 3d. The fees to be regulated according to the mental labor, the skill, and the period of time occupied. We do not think the prescriptions for a common catarrh, which in most cases terminates spontaneously, as valuable as those in membranous croup or malignant scarlet fever. There is no reason why the remuneration for the treatment of smallpox and typhus fever should not be much greater than that for influenza and quinsy.

[For the American Journal of Homœopathy.]

NEW-YORK, March 9th, 1852.

To DR. KIRBY.

DEAR SIR,—Your comments, in your journal of the present month, on the inaugural address of Joseph T. Curtis, M.D., clearly show that you are puzzled without rhyme or reason. There also runs through them a kind of sneer disloyally offensive to the high authority which sanctioned it by ordering its publication. I must, perforce, agree with you, that there can be but one true law of cure; but you mistake the inference and application when you stick to the old law, instead of going over to the new, as it now stands, propounded and expounded by the learned Doctor, and established and proclaimed by the Academy, from whose decision there is no appeal. It is decreed, that henceforth, in consideration of the splendid new discovery in therapeutics, the *similia similibus*, and all such notions, are to be remembered only as the by-gone Hahnemannism, and that there shall be but one true Curtis-law, and one true Curtis-system! I say, amen! with all my heart! A system, which is, more than any other, beautifully simple, quickly comprehended, easily practised, and readily providing for the patient a physician in himself, must needs be the exclusive one, the only true one, and such is the system of our Hahnemann-eclipsing Curtis! It is the grand *desideratum*, the *millenium* of the afflicted sick, where all scholastic mystifying technicalities are done away, and where all that is to be done, can be done by a common nurse, or a mere child of either sex! If, as they say, simplicity and brevity be the chief elements of THE SUBLIME, what system can be more so, than the one compressed entire into twelve words, "Give what the body wants, take what it does not want!" It is quite equal to the octave phrase, "Let there be light, and there was light!"

You seem to chuckle with a kind of prescient triumph when you ask, how the general *quantum sufficit* of the constituent solids and fluids in a healthy body can be ascertained, and how it can be known exactly what each body in a morbid state requires to be replenished, what to be reduced, so that superabundance and deficiency may be equalised maugre the law of idiosyncrasy, by which what is too little for one

body may be too much for another, and so *vice versa*? Dismiss this embryo triumph from your thoughts! A few words from the Doctor will not fail to make *all right*! I see no difficulty in the way of answering your questions. For instance, choose a proper subject, male for men, female for women, middle-aged, of full growth, of medium height and size, in perfect health and vigour; weigh him carefully, make his the standard weight, and simply by what falls below it or exceeds it, you know to an ounce the quantity of matter to be added or subtracted in each patient, after his comparative weight had been ascertained. This is what *Procrustes* had done before!

Again, the pabulum which ~~pampers~~ some diseases, and privations that engender others, are or may be so well known, that all we have to do is to give each disease what it longs for, and take away what overfeeds it! Thus we all know that Hydrophobia rage is caused by want of water, therefore, we have now a chance of exorcising this unsparing fiend by filling him with as much water as he can imbibe! As to the finding out what each one of the patients craves for a supply, or what he wants to be rid of, we have only to place near his mouth salt, charcoal, iron, mercury, magnesia, castor-oil, lime, vinegar, etc.; and all the parts within, being living parts of a live body, will have their dislikes and likes so stirred up by the smell, that, if the patient be not dead to feeling he *instantly* will know what suits each part, and act accordingly. Thus, more than once, a living snake, lodged in a man's stomach, has been tempted by the scent of milk to crawl up to the mouth, where he was caught by the neck and drawn out never to return!

It is then a plain undisputed fact, that the new system brought forth by the genius of Curtis is the only true one, destined soon to supersede all others, and consign the gifted author to his well earned fame and immortality, shared only part by the academy that smiled upon his effort, and part, by one Doctor Stevens, if I err not, who in the West Indies cured the yellow fever, with miraculous success, by feeding it with salt, because, on opening the bodies of its victims he could find no salt in them—not even a decillionth pellet of the grain!

*Author of "Homœopathia Revealed."*

## HOMOEOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

WE have received the valedictory address of A. E. Small, M.D., Professor, &c., delivered at the fourth annual commencement of the above college. We have given the address a cursory reading, and it seems an able production of its kind.

The college is in a flourishing condition, much more so than could have been anticipated by its most sanguine friends. The number of matriculations of the session just closed is 93; of these 31 graduated. The subjects of the *thesis* of the graduates show a spirit of inquiry and independance in thinking which are highly commendable. We do not doubt that more than ordinary talents, natural and acquired, have been added to our school through the agency of the Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania.

We have glanced over a most silly paper written by the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher of Brooklyn, New-York, on Medical Practice, which has been to our surprise copied into several medical journals. The Rev. Mr. Beecher may, for aught we know, understand theology, but he has a very imperfect knowledge of medicine. The amount of what he has said in the article to which we refer is, that he has little or no confidence in the art of healing. He employs an allopath because his ancestors did so, and he himself has become accustomed to pukes and purges. He ridicules Homœopathy, for no reason, that we can perceive, other than the fact, that he knows nothing about it. The article under notice can do no harm; it shows, however, so much pride, vanity and trifling that we fear the Rev. Gentleman, in meddling with a matter he has not studied, may suffer in his reputation for piety. We should very much regret such an effect, for Mr. Beecher is certainly a useful man in his calling, although he is not a great man.

The three Medical Colleges of this city have held their annual commencement and graduated a large number—some 150, we believe. What these young allopathic Doctors will do for a living from their profession we are at a loss to determine. We do not believe there is a place in all creation where the services of an allopathic physician are needed.

A member of the New-York Academy of Medicine writes a letter to the Editor of the New-York Medical Times, which appears in that print, to let the public know that he lately made a visit to Paris and London. That in the former city he diligently inquired for the Homœopathic Hospital of which "he had heard so much," but could find no one who could give him the least information of any such Hospital. This intelligence is astounding, inasmuch as there never was such a Hospital in Paris. This New-York Academy gentleman did not, it seems, inquire for Dr. Tessier's ward of a hundred beds in the Hospital of St. Marguerite, a branch of the Hôtel Dieu, where the patients are openly treated homœopathically. Afterwards this New-York gentleman visited London, but he was careful to make no inquiry for the Homœopathic Hospitals, for there are two in successful operation in that city.

Hereafter when American physicians visit Europe, and they wish to write home about the progress of Homœopathy, they have before them the example of the correspondent of the Times, to inquire for Homœopathic Hospitals where there are none, and report accordingly.

### NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

This is the last number of the sixth volume of this journal. The first number of the seventh volume will be published on or before the first day of May next. It is our purpose to make the matter of the journal still more interesting to the physician and to the general reader. Subscribers will please notice that their subscriptions are now due for the next volume, and they will oblige us by remitting the amount by mail or otherwise by the first day of May next.

### NOTICE.

The ninth annual meeting of the American Institute of Homœopathy will be held in the city of Baltimore, on Wednesday, the 19th day of May next, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

G. W. SWAZEY,

*General Secretary.*

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., }  
March 26th, 1852. }



